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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007

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Dysart joins the pay-hike club

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

One week after Highlands East councillors voted to give themselves a raise politicians in the neighbouring municipality of Dysart et al have followed suit.

Following an October 30 proposal by Councillor Steve Pogue, council passed a bylaw yesterday approving an increase to councillors' base salaries and mileage compensation to attend meetings in Haliburton. Dysart et al council has not seen an increase in pay since rates were frozen in 2003.

Currently, Dysart council is the lowest-paid in Haliburton County yet the municipality is also the biggest, both in population and geographically.

Currently, the reeve's salary is \$22,000, the deputy-reeve's is \$14,000 and the five councillors earn \$12,000 each. The newly approved base salary will see those numbers increase to \$24,400, \$16,100 and \$13,800 respectively, with annual increases.

The increase, which is approximately \$1,800 a year, covers the cost of living over the past four years.

"I think we all tried to keep it fairly modest. We're still the lowest paid councillors in Haliburton County and the area," says Pogue.

The increase is effective January 1, 2008 with mileage added on top of the salary. Starting in 2009 the raise will be based on the Consumer Price Index and the contract negotiation percentage.

See **Salary** page 10



MATT JAMES/Echo

There's Santa!

Madalyn Byrne, 3, can't believe her eyes when she and her mom Trish spot Santa Claus at the Wilberforce Santa Claus parade on Dec. 9. It was a cool, crispy day for the parade but the crowd was well prepared. For more fun photos turn to page 22.

Health services opens budget talks with deficit

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has drafted a deficit budget as a way of opening negotiations for a few more healthcare dollars.

Although hospital budgets must, by law, be balanced, HHHS is not proposing that it spend more than it is allowed as an act of defiance. Instead, it's simply a way of pointing out why the province's 2.4 per cent funding increase is not quite enough to cover normal cost increases.

It costs HHHS \$11 million to run the emergency departments in Haliburton and Minden as well as the acute care unit in Haliburton. Its proposed budget is only \$220,000 above its approved funding.

"There's no harm in trying," says chief financial officer Cathy Outram of the deficit budget tactic. If the HHHS were to accept the flat 2.4 per cent funding increase, then it would have no opportunity to point out that negotiated salary increases are 3 per cent and that equipment and supply costs are up between 3 and 10 per cent. If HHHS were to absorb the difference, it would have to find ways to cut costs. It feels it is already running a lean and efficient organization.

See **Inflation** page 5

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One, two, three, create

The Art Hive hosted a Gingerbread Art Challenge on Saturday. Logan Heaven, Mikaela Gordon (back), Seamus Lynch, Tanisha Gordon, Coleman Heaven and Abbey Gordon were more than happy to respond. The kids spent about two hours making their gingerbread house. When Abbey was asked why she wanted to participate she said "just for fun". All the materials were provided for the participants. All of the creations will be on display until December 15th at the Art Hive. In the meantime, the public can purchase a raffle ticket to try to win their favourite house. The \$5 donation goes to the food bank.



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Foreign students sign on with the Frost Centre

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

If you were to visit the Frost Centre Institute next summer, it may seem like a youthful League of Nations is taking a holiday in the forests of Canada.

The Frost Centre has just signed two agreements which will bring at least 200 foreign students to the shores of St. Nora's Lake every summer.

Educational Advisors Ltd. is based in Madrid, Spain. It usually sends its young English-as-a-second-language clients to England as a fun way to learn a new language.

But students, and their parents, were looking for something more. An Internet search brought Educational Advisors to www.frostcentreinstitute.com. They liked what they saw on the website and this past summer officials from the organization came for several visits. While here, they really liked what they saw.

A couple of weeks ago Educational Advisors and the Frost Centre Institute signed a deal which will see a minimum of 100 ESL students spend a month at the Frost Centre.

"These kids will come from Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Ukraine and Russia," says Al Aubry, the Frost Centre Institute's general manager.

The students will take part in the centre's environmental science and visual arts program but add three hours of ESL training a day for five days a week, with weekends set aside just for exploring the centre's facilities and neighbouring forests. Like the other campers at the Frost Centre, they'll unwind by taking part in the non-motorized water sports at the site.

Aubry says that the European visitors believe that the Frost Centre is "unrivaled" as a summer camp for youth. They also loved "the fact we have our own Algonquin Park in our back yard."

The Frost Centre Institute has a stately presence on Hwy 35 south of Dorset. Behind the collection of white buildings, however, are 29,000 hectares of Crown land and lakes managed by the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails.

The Frost Centre can accommodate 250 students at a time but the ESL component of the summer camp will be between a minimum of 100 students and a maximum of 125.

Its strength as a learning centre – it already has a collaborative research agreement with the University of Guelph and is authorized to issue high school credits – was also key in forming another partnership, this time with Muskoka Language International. The private education organization was founded by retired Huntsville high school principal Bev McWilliams and places 4,500 children from the Far East in camps.

The Frost Centre's environmental programs caught McWilliams' eye. He's worked with the Frost Centre's staff to come up with a three-season program that will include the full bevy of programs as well as trips to Algonquin Park in the spring and fall.

The agreement says that in the first year the Muskoka Language School will send 100 kids to the Frost Centre. The first group is from Japan. They will come at the end of March and what makes this group even more special is that all the children are in wheelchairs. (The Frost Centre is fully accessible, including its showers.)

Aubry credits the Japanese government for encouraging students to learn more about the world around them. The Japanese ministry of education requires each child to spend at least one semester out of the country before they get their high school diploma.

While Aubry is thrilled by the new partnerships, he's also putting caps on how many campers can be international students because he wants to ensure that children from Ontario and Canada will be able to discover the fascinating natural world just outside their door.

The new partnerships cap a very busy and exhausting year for Aubry and his team.

The Ministry of Natural Resources announced in March, 2007 that Aubry had won the bid to re-open the former Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre. That didn't give him much time to complete the extensive renovation program and fill the camp spaces in time for the opening in late June. With only 10 per cent of the spots filled, the Aubrys paid for 54 Little Brothers and Little Sisters to enjoy a week at camp at no cost to their families.

Aubry also formalized a research agreement with the University of Guelph and got provincial approval to offer high school credits.



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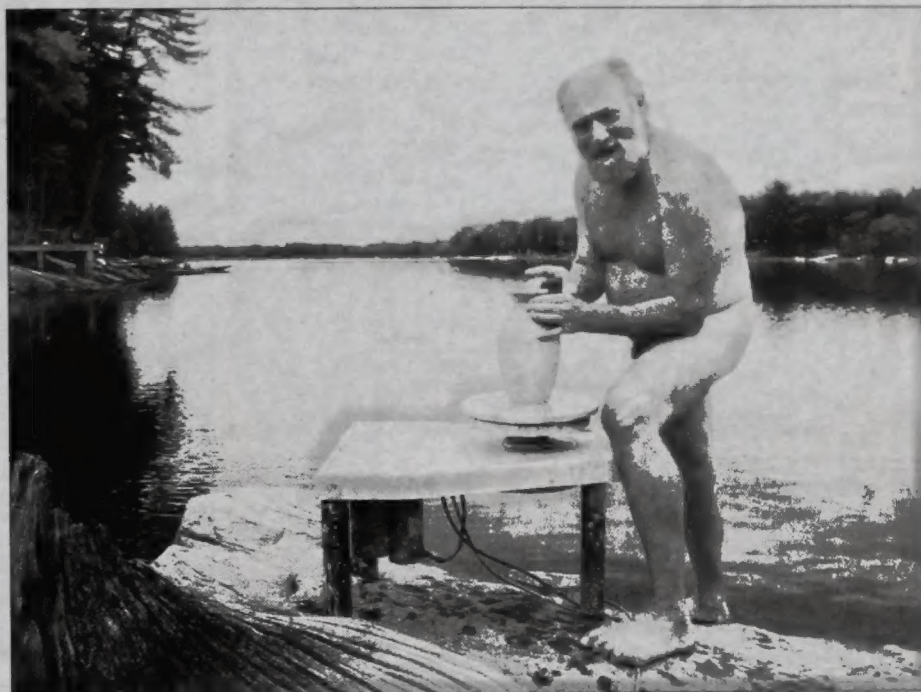
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When a letter was addressed to 'Mr. July,' the staff at the Minden Post Office knew exactly where to send it – the 'hairy potter,' Grahame Wales. Wales is one of the models in a new fundraising calendar.

Artists bare all for cultural foundation's sake

Mr. July is getting mail.

The calendar released in October by the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation has gained a certain degree of notoriety.

The 12-page calendar features members of the Haliburton Highlands arts community in a variety of semi-nude poses. The publication is a fund raiser created to assist the Foundation in encouraging the arts in Minden Hills. Each page features shots of artists in their studios or on the landscape, many with little more than a stitch on.

"It is a fun fund-raiser," says Michael Fay, chairman of the Foundation. "We thought we would create something that was a little provocative and artistic at the same time."

While the calendar has proven to be a great fundraising success, (there are still a few copies available), it has also generated an interesting response for those who have taken it all off for the arts. Many of the models have heard the comment, "Oh, it's you. I didn't recognize you with your clothes on" while other have demurred at requests to "reveal all."

The most generous compliment came recently from the staff at the Minden Post Office. A letter arrived recently addressed to "Mr. July" Minden. Without hesitation, the letter was handed over to the driver for Rural Route 2 and directed it to 1234 Crooked House Road, the home of Grahame Wales, the

artist who picture is featured on the July page of the calendar.

"It was from a friend of ours on Boshkung Lake," Wales says. "He read about the fund-raising project in the newspaper and wanted to see what all the fuss was about."

Grahame, with his wife Debbie, create pottery at their Earth and Fire Pottery, studio. "I guess word had gotten out

about the calendar and the staff of the post office must have seen it. How else would they know who 'Mr. July' was," he says.

The letter contained an order for one of the calendars and a donation for the Foundation.

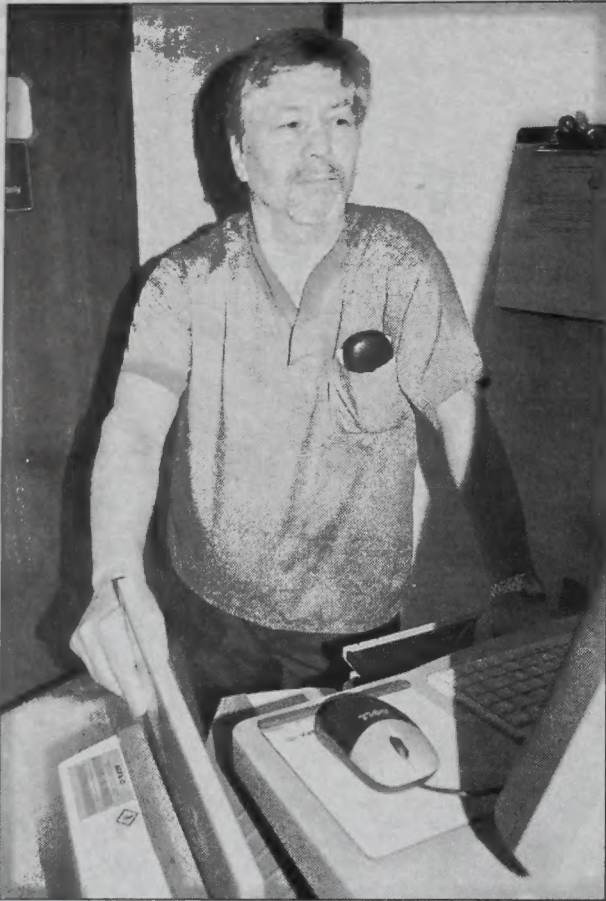
"We were happy to get the request for

the calendar and the donation. That is what this project is all about," he said.

Copies of the calendar are still available but supplies are dwindling rapidly. Find out who the artists are from all 23 months of the year in the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Artists Exposed calendar. The calendar is available from the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, Whispers North Gallery and Gifts in Minden and Pine Reflections in Carnarvon. "Mr. July" and members of the Foundation board of directors also have copies for sale. The cost is \$20, \$25 if you wish to have it mailed out. Call the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for details, 286-3763.

"We thought we'd create something that was a little provocative and artistic at the same time."

MICHAEL FAY



MATT JAMES/Echo

LEFT: Part-time x-ray technician Rudy Muntz holds in his hand a \$6,000 piece of equipment, a digitized plate.

HoHoHoS open house



Gift shop auxiliary volunteer Carolyn Bebee cracks a big smile at the open house.

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On the evening of Dec. 6 the Haliburton Highlands Health Services invited its community of supporters and donors to join HHS staff for their Christmas open house and see their money at work. The digital diagnostic imaging system (PACS) now takes approximately 30 seconds to view an x-ray compared to the old system, which took anywhere between 5-10 minutes. X-rays can also be transmitted to Peterborough in approximately three minutes. The accuracy and speed this new equipment brings could mean the difference between life and death in the case of a severe emergency.



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Inflation and increased costs eat into funding

from page 1

"[The situation] is not dire but things can be better," Outram says. "If you can't even cover inflation, how do we move towards making things better?"

"If you send in a balanced budget there's no opportunity for discussion or coming to the [Local Health Integration Network] for more."

Even without inflation the budget is facing serious pressures, says acting chief executive officer Janice Hardy. Nurse shortages require the organization to spend more money on recruitment and overtime. Mandatory standards for levels of care are rising and HHHS needs to hire more specialized staff to meet these standards. HHHS is facing new costs, such as paying a private ambulance to transport non-urgent patients to outside hospitals for tests. "We can be confident in saying we're taking care of things but we still have pressures we need resolved," she says.

She's also hopeful that more money will be announced before the budget is finalized. New money has been made available every December for the past few years and the trend might continue this year.

"You can't go into this all doom and gloom," she says. For the first time budget negotiations are with this region's LHIN. In order to allow regions to respond better to their own unique needs, the Ministry of Health has set up a network of LHINs and given them the power to make decisions over funding and services. (Funding for long-term care still comes from the ministry. HHHS will have to negotiate with the ministry if there are any problems with running Highland Wood and Hyland Crest on a \$6 million budget.)

Nizar Ladak, a senior director with Central East LHIN, knows about the proposed deficit budget and is open to meet with HHHS about its funding pressures.

This new structure has yet to be fully tested. Hardy says, "Their goal is to ensure places like us don't get lost; accomplishing that goal will be more difficult."

Outram says that already there's been a lot more local engagement between the LHIN, the HHHS and the community at large over how our healthcare dollars can best be spent. But after talking to people, the LHIN has to find ways of making those suggestions come true.

She thinks it's unfortunate that there are conflicts that arise when funding comes from different government agencies. More can be done, she says, to take a holistic approach to a community's needs.

For instance, last year the county's Emergency Medical Services department had to tell HHHS that local ambulances could no longer be used to take patients from Haliburton County to hospitals outside its borders for tests. This was a huge drain on the EMS department's limited resources and kept ambulances out of the county for too much time.

As a result, HHHS has to rely more on a company called Travois. Travois has a contract with hospitals throughout the region to transport non-urgent patients. However, its ambulances are often based in Peterborough which means HHHS must pay for the ambulance to drive up from Peterborough, pick up the patient, transport the patient to another hospital (often in Peterborough), drive the patient back to Haliburton and then return to its base in Peterborough. Since HHHS is charged by the kilometre, this service costs about \$1,000 per transfer. HHHS doesn't want to pass on this cost to patients so it is paying the tab.

Wouldn't it have been better, Outram says, for the

MARTHA PERKINS/ECHO



While the province has already committed to a 2.4 per cent funding increase, acting CEO Janice Hardy and CFO Cathy Outram say the problem is that salaries are going up three per cent and supplies costs have increased up to 10 per cent.

Ministry of Health to fund the county for an extra ambulance? This would have relieved pressure on EMS, eliminated a new cost for HHHS and improved service for patients.

The nursing shortage is not so much a funding issue although it is putting financial pressure on HHHS. The stress on nursing resources is further complicated by the fact that MDS moved its laboratory out of the county two years ago. It still has a courier service for test samples but this adds to wait times for results. If the patient is in emergency, the wait exacerbates the situation.

In response, the HHHS has spent money on improving its in-house lab services but much of the work has to be done by nurses.

The HHHS is also finding it more difficult not to have an in-house pharmacist. The family health team pharmacist can help provide some services, but not as many as HHHS requires.



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There are others who use it as a relatively easy way to supplement their income. They come to meetings unprepared, contribute little to the discussions and don't go out of their way to talk to the people who voted them into this cushy job.

echo

editorial

martha perkins

Problem is that the current pay structure rewards (or penalizes) all councillors in the same way.

If you were a boss, you could decide on your own which employees deserved a raise. You'd base their pay on merit. But when you're a council member at salary time, in essence you're your own boss. Not only do you get to decide how much you deserve, but everyone gets paid the same amount. (However, if the pay is structured so that a councillor gets paid for every meeting attended, at least those who go to more meetings get more money.)

The other problem is that virtually everyone in Haliburton County is underpaid. It's one of the sacrifices most people are willing to make in order to be able to enjoy the Highlands lifestyle. You willingly accept less money than you would earn elsewhere because there are the benefits of living amongst the forests and lakes. (Try affording a lake-front view if you work at most local jobs, however.)

Dysart et al council is trying to take the politics out of salary hikes by implementing a system of guaranteed pay hikes based on inflation. This relieves councillors of the burden of giving themselves a raise. However, why aren't they willing to do this with their staff members? Can't unions now argue that cost-of-living increases should be mandated for them too?

Gone will be the argument that when times are tough – when property values skyrocket or we have a rainy summer and no one comes to their cottage – council can argue that everyone needs to tighten their belt straps. (Hey, does anyone remember when zero-budgets were all the rage?) If council has guaranteed itself an annual raise, isn't it virtually guaranteeing its staff a raise. At least taxpayers won't have to be paying for all those contract negotiation talks any more.

It used to be that running for office was seen as a public service, a way of giving back to the community. Perhaps that was in the day, however, when the biggest decision a council had to make was what truck to buy. No one is arguing that people, including politicians, shouldn't be paid what they are worth. It's just too bad that there's no way to debate what their worth is worth.



Slopes up.

Photo by MATT JAMES/ECHO

Need the heat

IT'S RIGHT ABOUT NOW that I start thinking about the Turks and Caicos or whatever Caribbean Islands that we keep threatening to buy into.

What's happening on this score? What's holding up the process? Can't our leaders see that this would be the icing on the cake? The crowning glory? The final piece of the puzzle? What is the only thing we don't have in this fair land?

We have most of the world's fresh water.

We have a good portion of the world's gold and silver and (probably) diamonds, for goodness sake. Iron ore? Forget about it. We have it by the acre. Nickel. We invented it, didn't we? You name it and Canada has it by the boatload.

We have it all, right. Well, not exactly.

What ain't we got? We ain't got heat. Except maybe too much of it in July. One stupid month of out-and-out, slather-on-the-suntan lotion, heat. And the rest of the year is either heading into or out of winter. It just isn't enough for our hard-working, frosted population, who pay our dues yearly, living up to our knees in slush and snow; fending off frigid, biting northerlies trying to freeze our faces off, and making it necessary for us to even consider a machine called a snowmobile, let alone inventing it. Where have we gone wrong? The U.S. grabbed Hawaii long ago. And they already had Florida and California. No fools, they. Hot enough for ya? No. It's never hot enough for ya, I say.

Isn't there one politician out there who needs something interesting to offer the

Canadian voter? Would he or she be accused by his or her peers of trying to get cheap votes? Yes. Would he or she care? No. Not if he or she gets elected. And he or she definitely would.

"If I'm elected, I promise better working conditions (yawn), better infrastructure (zzzz) and even more free medical care (snore), and...and...and an azure ocean with miles of golden beach for every frozen soul of you.

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More beer than those little islands have ever imagined. A shoe-in. Prime Minister Sunshine could not miss.

Could this be considered a frivolous, unimportant issue? Definitely. And it's about time we Canadians wrapped our Presbyterian minds around something on the lighter side. Some fun in the sun. Would we become a nation of singing, dancing, sun-crazed Canucks? Yes. Just take a look at some of your countrymen on a Caribbean vacation. Stuff? I don't think so. Most Canadians hit the beach running — freeze-dried, rum 'n' Coke fuelled dynamos from the north.

Look out you Turks and all of you Caicos, too. You've heard of the Crazy Canucks? Well that was winter and this is summer. The ice people have just skated in, and you may not know what hit you until you learn to count loonies which, I assure you, you will enjoy.

Write your MP. And remember, it only took 140 years to get a February long weekend.



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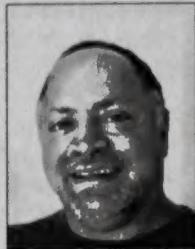
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Recreational shooters

LAST WEEKEND, I had the good fortune to spend some time at the Burlington Rifle and Revolver Club. This trip was work-related in that we were introduced to and familiarized with a new line-up of firearms by a major manufacturer. Afterward, we attended a dinner, the purpose of which was to raise funds for the Canadian Shooting Sports Association, a firearms and shooting sports advocacy group.

Venues like this are always interesting to me because they remind me how safe and fun the shooting sports are. More importantly, they confirm what most people already know: that the gun problem is not born in places such as this.

In organized clubs, safety and respect for firearms and people is the prime directive. And, without fail or exception, club members do their utmost to keep it that way. Interestingly too, shooters were from all walks of life, ages, and ethnic origins, and some of the finest pistol shooters I saw last weekend were women.



steve
galea

outside chance

Also, contrary to a popular misconception held by some non-shooters, target shooting is perhaps the least violent of all sports. It's competitive, yes, but there is no body contact or foul language; neither is there yelling at officials, trash talk, or disrespect. In fact, there's probably more confrontation during a friendly round of golf.

Right about now, those unfamiliar with the sport might be asking themselves, what's so fun about shooting at a paper target or clay birds? Well, I think the first thing that grows on you is the sense of satisfaction that comes from shooting well. Marksmanship, after all, requires excellent hand-eye co-ordination and no small amount of concentration to place a bullet in the X or to break a clay bird. To do so consistently day-in and day-out is even more difficult.

And though shooters often gauge their progress by competition, in most cases they're competing against their personal bests and trying to improve their own skills. Many say it's a great way to step away from the stresses of everyday life – which, in a sense, also makes it a healthy activity.

Sadly, these are the people whose activities are most affected and curtailed by our current firearms laws too.

For the record, I'm not against firearms laws and regulations in principle. I think some aspects of our current laws, such as licensing and safe storage provisions, are good and useful ideas. Much of our current slate of laws, however, has no impact on crime reduction. Worse still, they waste funds that could be better utilized elsewhere to address the root causes of violent crime. Also, as anyone with a modicum of common sense has already figured out, gun laws do not affect criminals, since criminals by their very nature break laws.

That's enough about the politics of it all. The truth is that recreational shooting is actually fascinating in its own right. More than that, it's harmless, promotes gun safety, and is constantly reinforcing the responsible use of firearms. Oh, and it is a great social venue for like-minded people, in the very same way curling or softball is.

Personally, I don't think it would be a bad thing for most people to visit their local range at least once as guests. Then maybe there'd be a better universal understanding of what responsible firearms ownership means and why firearms owners seem opposed, threatened, or burdened by our laws as they stand.

If we as a nation understood that much, then maybe we could get serious about dealing with those who use firearms criminally or irresponsibly.

I can be reached at TheOutdoorLife@aol.com.
Drop a note if the mood strikes.



pic of the past

Could this be a young man showing off his Christmas booty? This photo was taken somewhere in Haliburton County but the exact location and date are unknown. See this photo and more of Haliburton's history at the Haliburton Museum, home of the Gorrie photo collection.

letters to the editor

A project of faith

To the Editor:

I was moved by the story of the folks revitalizing the Highland Grove general store to call and congratulate them for embracing a risky project on faith, with a passion for heritage worth preserving. I wish them well.

I grew up with a village general store/post office/hub of all things that meant community. I have been thrilled to see the revitalization of the Argyle General Store which I drop into whenever heading to Toronto. I have a recollection of being invited to peruse the stock in the attic there some 30 years ago, when I couldn't find what I was looking for on the main floor. The article reminded me of that memory from another era when commerce was based on more personal values.

We're fortunate to live in a community so rich with opportunities for gift-giving which support local talents, initiatives or creative efforts. There is no need to drive to an urban centre, let alone to the US to warm the hearts of our loved ones. By giving Haliburton-produced items, there is a second gift to the vitality of Haliburton.

Whether it's locally produced maple syrup or wine, the Haliburton DVD or Rails End postcard calendar, an annual membership to any number of organizations, a pass for a recreational pursuit, a gift certificate for a local service, a subscription to the Summer Theatre Festival, a local artisan's one-of-kind creation or a book of local history, it would

make a stress-free, welcomed gift.

The Echo and Times are so important to our concept of community. Personal stories reinforce what is important to us as individuals and as a collective.

Pamela Marsales
Haliburton

Shock treatment

To the Editor:

The raise in pay that has been proposed for Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton and councillors is outrageous. With North America in a credit crunch, the Bank of Canada lowering interest rates, the instability of the stock markets, not to mention the numerous companies either moving or shutting down or laying off in record numbers of people, Highlands East is proposing an increase in salaries. It leads me to believe all is well in Highlands East and that Highlands East is the only destination in North America that is not acceptable to market swings or the entire economic picture.

With union contracts only around the corner for the proud employees of Highlands East the future looks so bright they're going to have to wear shades.

I feel it my duty as a taxpaying citizens to invite the entire council out for an afternoon of electric shock treatment.

T.C. Drew
Gooderham

Boonieville

by Charlie Teljeur



MNR grant funds land trust research on rare species

When it comes to staying alive, pretending to be dead is the favourite defence strategy of the Eastern Hog-nosed Snake.

On a bright August day, the body of a Hog-nosed lies on a Haliburton back road, belly-up, tongue hanging out of its turned-up snout. Surely it has been squished by some passing pickup.

But roll it over with a stick to look for injuries and it rolls right back, looking as dead as ever. The illusion is destroyed.

If you actually see a Hog-nosed, you're very lucky because human persecution has made it a rare snake in most parts of Ontario, including Haliburton.

A provincially-funded project undertaken by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is investigating the status of the Hog-nosed and 13 other plants and creatures on Ontario's Species at Risk list.

The Land Trust-commissioned study being undertaken by Paul Heaven of Minden will try to identify habitats used by the 14 species and determine the cause of population declines. Its results should be ready for publication early in 2008.

The grant of \$25,200 to Land Trust was part of \$3-million in funding announced under the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk (SAR) Stewardship Fund last fall.

Partners in the project are The Land Between of Haliburton, the Frost Campus of Sir Sandford Fleming College in Lindsay, and the Haliburton Highlands Land Stewardship Council of Minden.

"Land Trusts are working together with private landowners and governments to protect areas of special ecological interest," says Land Trust chair Ian Daniel.

"There is a need to know more about the habitat of species at risk. This project will clarify and add to the body of scientific data showing which areas in Haliburton may be especially important for wildlife protection."

Results of the study also will help the Trust make decisions on properties and conservation easements it is offered. One of its main functions is to acquire lands of special ecological interest and preserve them in their natural state in perpetuity.

An earlier report prepared for Land Trust by Heaven's Glenside Ecological Services Ltd., (County of Haliburton Natural Heritage Mapping: A Compilation and Preliminary Assessment) shows suitable habitats for the Eastern Hog-nosed Snake throughout the settled parts of Haliburton.

However, the greatest concentration of potential Hog-nosed sites seems to be in Anson and Lutterworth townships and in an area north of the Monck Road between Irondale and Gooderham. The SAR study will upgrade that analysis.

The Hog-nosed in the front-page picture pointing to this article is a two-year-old male photographed by for-



A provincially-funded project undertaken by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is investigating the status of the Hog-nosed snake and 13 other plants and creatures on Ontario's Species at Risk list.

mer HHLT contract employee Brenda Van Sleeuwen. The snake comes in a variety of colour combinations marked with dark splotches.

Playing dead is a second line of defence for the snake. The handbook Reptiles and Amphibians of Algonquin Park says that:

"If it finds itself cornered, it draws its body into a loose coil, flattens its head and neck to double normal width and takes a deep breath, visibly inflating its body. Then it slowly expels the air taken in, producing a long hiss."

This behaviour accounts for its alternate name, Puff Adder, and leads to persecution by humans who mistakenly believe it is poisonous. In fact, though it may strike if it is handled, the Algonquin handbook says it never bites.

The Hog-nosed, which also suffers from habitat loss, is classified as Threatened under the Species at Risk program.

The 14 Haliburton rarities on the SAR list include five

in the most serious category, Endangered. There are two plants, American Ginseng and Engelmann's Quillwort; two birds, Peregrine Falcon and Loggerhead Shrike; and one reptile, the Wood Turtle.

Less grave is the plight of four threatened species. Besides the Hog-nosed, there are the Golden-Winged Warbler, Blandings Turtle and the Stinkpot turtle.

Of special concern are the Southern Flying Squirrel, Spotted Turtle, Five-Lined Skink, Milksnake and Eastern Ribbonsnake.

If you think you have seen any of these plants or creatures, call Neil Campbell at 1-705-457-7158 or e-mail him at neilcampbell@xplornet.com.

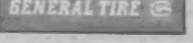
If you would like to learn more about the HHLT, take a look at its web site:

<http://www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/>

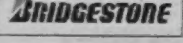


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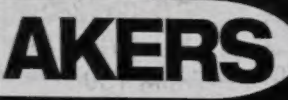






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How to plan and survive your party

FRANKA ANDRIANO

Special to the Echo

This is a time when even the most organized people get stressed. The way to avoid this is to plan and prepare early. There is nothing worse than needing an ingredient in the middle of making a dish and finding you don't have it. You will feel a lot less stressed if you start by making a checklist and carry it around with you.

Jot down notes and then sit down and make a time line for what you need to do.

I also believe that even though you are hosting the event you can also be a guest.

With careful planning you can enjoy your own party.

Just follow some simple rules and have fun.

Have a Happy Holiday!

- Make a list of all the foods you plan to prepare. Find all the recipes and keep them in a separate folder.

- Choose food that will satisfy the meat eaters, vegetarians and some low fat food.

- Also if you are doing appetizers choose some that you can prepare ahead and even freeze.

- You will need 3-5 hors d'oeuvres per person per hour.

- Make a shopping list of all the ingredients and other necessities that you will need.

- Then break this list down and make your schedule on buying.

- Buy your non-perishables and bulky items early. It makes the chore easier if you don't have to do it all at the last minutes.

- Most foods can be bought a couple of days ahead except for the most perishable; fish, for example.

- Plan your tableware, wash them and get them sorted out days beforehand.

- Set the tables so people can move around and access the food easily. Set up different food tables in different rooms.

- Set up a bar and drink area and ask one of your guests to keep the ice bucket filled.

- Clean your house for a couple days ahead so on the day you just need to do a quick tidy up. Don't vacuum the house and scrub down the baths the morning of the event.

- Keep the day before for last minute food prep, setting the table and the day of for you to organize yourself.

- An hour before you guests arrive put start prepping your food and if you have the fridge space make up your trays before hand.

- Also ask a good friend to help out by coming over a bit before the party to help you set up.

HAM AND GRUYERE PINWHEELS

1 pkg frozen puff pastry, thawed
1 egg
1/2 mango chutney, strained
4 oz thinly sliced black forest ham
1/2 cup Gruyere ham

Line 2 baking sheets with parchment sheets. On lightly floured surface, roll out half of the pastry into 12 inch squares. Spread half of the mango chutney over pastry, leaving half-inch border. Arrange half of the ham in single layer over top; top with half of the cheese. Whisk egg with 1

tblsp water, brush lightly over border. Starting at one-inch edge, roll up firmly; pinch along seam to seal. Repeat with remaining pastry and filling. Wrap in plastic wrap; refrigerate until firm about one hour or up to 24 hours

Using serrated knife, cut into scant one half inch thick slices. Place on prepared pan

Make ahead. Cover and refrigerate

Freeze on baking sheets until firm and then layer between waxed paper in airtight container and freeze for up to 2 weeks. Bake from frozen

Bake in centre of 425 oven until golden brown about 15 minutes.

Make 30 pcs.

From Canadian Living Holiday Best 2003

Franka Andriano is the owner of Franka's Delectables Catering Service. From one dish to a wedding call for free consultation. 705-457-5276 or www.whisperingpinebbretreat.com/catering

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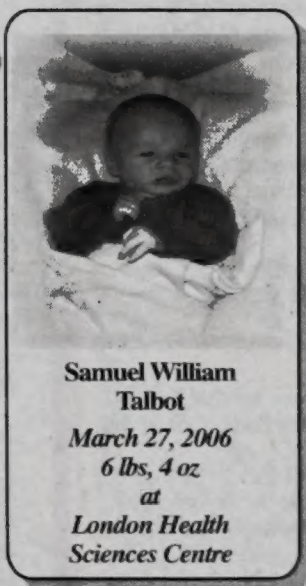
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Santa's gift

With the help of the Lions and Rotary Clubs, Haliburton Santa Claus parade watchers donated \$1,760 to the 4Cs food bank. The public raised \$580 which was matched by both the Lions and the Rotary Clubs. From left are Lion Betty Mills, Rotary president Lon Duncombe, parade organizer Jim Frost and the 4Cs' Ave Petch.

MATT JAMES/ECHO



Salary increases now based on inflation

from page 1

Council will take the lower percentage of the two as its raise.

"This would bring the councillor salary in line with the current average of the four lower-tier municipalities," said Pogue, comparing Dysart to Highlands East, Algonquin Highlands and Minden Hills.

A motion for the raise was first passed at the Dec. 5 council meeting. Deputy reeve Bill Davis was filling in for Reeve Murray Fearrey, who was attending a county negotiations meeting.

"I really don't dwell on salaries a lot," said Fearrey. "I just think councillors need to decide what is fair for the amount of time put out based on the number of meetings, and to justify it in their own minds. I don't think you should establish your rates base it on what everyone else is doing."

So does he think the raise is necessary?

"Council unanimously thought it was," he said. "They [council] haven't had an increase for three or four years but they felt they should be keeping pace with inflation. I believe that's the vote they took, and if that's their rationale then that's reasonable and I certainly won't be criticizing what council did."

Pogue put forth the proposal after researching what other Ontario municipalities were doing. He also mentioned that he'd attended a new council course where there were discussions about pay structure.

"What people are doing to get away from this controversial decision is to bring in this automatic adjustment of the rates," said Pogue.

"It's a decision that staff makes based on market conditions. And that way we don't need to deal with an uncomfortable issue, so that's the second part of what we've implemented here."

The timing comes as union contract negotiations continue. Council agreed it was an awkward time for a raise, which is behind the rationale for a set pay structure.

"Unfortunately the Municipal Act dictates council has to establish the wages for not only the staff but for themselves," said Pogue. "There is no magic formula out there that the province says this is what the remuneration will be. It's just always something that each council has to deal with and it is an awkward position that council has to be in."

Under Pogue's proposal council doesn't have to deal with it every two to three years.

"It's an inconvenient responsibility," said Pogue. "That's why I put this proposal in here, to have this formula for grid adjustments for the future. Hopefully we don't have to deal with this again, but we as a council have to have the strength and tenacity to make this decision and back this up. And hopefully council from now on will not have to deal with this issue cause it should move itself along at cost of living."

With the union contract expiring Dec. 31, Ward 2 councillor Derek Knowles added, "I'm not entirely comfortable giving myself a raise. I didn't mind when it was my money, but this is not my money. I guess we're not going to change anything, but someday it's got to be done by somebody other than council."

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A site to see

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Justin van Lieshout belts out "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" during the first half of The Sounds of Christmas at the Northern Lights Pavilion.

Laughing along, singing a song...



Members of the audience were joyful and triumphant as they helped sing "O Come All Ye Faithful."



The Highland Festival Singers—formerly known as the Messiah Choir—presented the good folks of Haliburton County with The Sounds of Christmas at the Northern Lights Pavilion Dec. 9-10. Featuring guest artist Justin van Lieshout, who sang five beautiful numbers, the 20 or so Highland Festival Singers filled pavilion with an arrangement of new and old carols with accompanying pianist Lauren McInnes. Directed by Melissa Stephens, the crowd also participated in the singing of O Come All Ye Faithful and Silent Night. Many thanks to the sponsors Re/Max Haliburton, Eagle Lake Country Market and the Ethel Curry Gallery.



Photos by
Matt James

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The one and only sound of Canoe FM

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

CBC Radio has "a sound."
Private radio has "a sound."

And when Ted Fairhurst inadvertently found himself listening to 100.9 FM, he knew he had found something different.

"It sounded very real – genuine and authentic," the retired CBC Radio journalist told the volunteers gathered for Canoe FM's appreciation brunch on Sunday morning at the Haliburton Legion.

So what is community radio's sound? It sounds like grandparents, and young teenagers, and ardent Elvis fans. It sounds like folk singers and sports junkies. In other words, it sounds just like its listeners.

"It offers such a public and creative outlet," Fairhurst told the six dozen people at the brunch. Because the station is staffed



In appreciation of their dedication to get, and keep, Canoe FM on the air, station co-ordinator Sue Black presented Lewis Simon and Jack Lowe with plaques of appreciation created by station president Mike Jaycock.

by volunteers, not radio professionals, it gives people who love radio, and their community, a chance to get involved. By

reporting on local events, and taping live shows, it helps listeners forge a sense of community. "You can keep a community together and build a community."

Technology provides endless possibilities for shows. No longer do people have to use heavy, expensive equipment. Instead, someone can take a digital recorder and professional microphone to an event, transfer it to a computer, edit it and broadcast it a few hours later.

Fairhurst, who retired in 2000 and has a cottage on Lake Catchema, is one of the volunteers who's helped make Canoe FM the most listened to station in Haliburton County (according to listener surveys.)

Station co-ordinator Sue Black praised the people who volunteer both on and off the air to keep the station going. "Boy oh boy, you guys work so hard," she said. Whenever something needs doing, "someone always steps up to the plate."

Two of those people earned special recognition this year. Jack Lowe, who provides technical expertise from his home in Toronto, was given a plaque in praise of being the station's "technical wizard, mentor and friend."

"We can never thank you enough," said station president Mike Jaycock, who also

created the plaque. This past summer, Lowe was able to take Jaycock's idea for the Highlands Summer Almanac – weekly live shows at various locations throughout the county – and make sure they actually made it on air.

Technical help was always close at hand in the form of Lewis Simon. Jaycock said, "I'm glad we weren't paying him by the hour." Simon's plaque recognized him as a station pioneer whose work will always be appreciated.

Simon thanked the station for giving him a way to become involved with the community when he first moved here.

There were lots more thanks including some for Jaycock himself, salesman Dave Allen, "the cheerleaders of cheerleaders" and "creative spark" Nick Bronson – as well as a healthy accountant's report by Dennis Casey and a musical performance by music co-ordinator Carl Dixon.

Jaycock said, "We have a lot of faithful listeners. We'd like them to stay longer and we do that through our constant improvement. This is a job that will never be done with. We want it to be that listeners think it sounds so easy."

The station's annual general meeting will be in February.

County Proud Pages

are starting soon in

The Highlands Weekender

The bragging has started!
Check out the Dec. 14th Highlands Weekender to see who's proud this week.
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New Ontario fishing regulations to go into effect on January 1

The 2008-2009 Ontario Fishing Regulations Summary is now available.

"A number of changes to Ontario's fishing regulations come into effect on January 1, 2008, and these are outlined in the new summary," said Natural Resources Minister Donna Cansfield in a press release. "The new regulations are easier to understand, provide a more consistent approach to managing fisheries, and help ensure the health and sustainability of the province's fish populations."

The regulation changes are part of the ministry's new ecological framework for recreational fisheries management in Ontario. This includes managing fisheries on a zone basis rather than on an individual lake basis, reducing the number of fishing zones to 20 from 37 divisions and establishing zone councils to enhance public involvement. As part of the framework, the ministry is planning to implement a new broadscale fisheries monitoring program that will provide additional information for future management decisions.

Generally, anglers will notice few differences in seasons and limits for most species. However, some changes were needed to establish regulations for the new zones, conserve valuable fisheries

resources and increase angling opportunities where sustainable. Anglers should check the summary carefully.

The 2008-2009 summary has improved text and maps to help users find regulations and make the summary easier to use.

"We welcome the release of the new fishing regulations, and are pleased that the changes are responsive to the interests of the angling community," said Mike Reader, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Executive Director. "I encourage all anglers to get a copy of the summary before going fishing."

Residents of Canada should note the establishment of the new Canadian Resident Fishing Licences. To fish, residents of Ontario and Canada between the ages of 18 and 65 must have a valid Outdoors Card and fishing licence. Non-residents must have a valid fishing licence before they may fish in Ontario waters. Details on the types of licences available can be found in the summary or at ontario.ca/fishing.

The 2008-2009 Ontario Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary is now available at ontario.ca/fishing. Copies can also be obtained from licence issuers and Service Ontario/Government Information Centres.

Your source for local fishing, hunting and outdoor sporting news
The Haliburton Echo

CHRISTMAS SEASON EVENTS 2007

The United Church of Canada
Highland Hills Pastoral Charge
21 Newcastle St., Box 247
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
Phone: 286-1470
Email: highhills@interhop.net



Zion United Church, (Carnarvon) - 9 a.m. Sunday Service
Maple Lake United Church, (Hwy 118) - 10 a.m. Sunday Service
Minden United Church - 11 a.m. Sunday Service

Sunday, Dec. 16 (Advent III - Joy)

Cantata Service at ZION 9:00 a.m. presented by the Zion United Church Choir.
Service at MAPLE LAKE 10:00 a.m. with Rev. John Patterson, followed by brunch pancakes
Cantata Service at MINDEN 11:00 a.m. presented by the Minden United Church Choir.

Sunday, Dec. 23 (Advent IV - Love)

Regular morning worship services at each church

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24

3:00 p.m. Family Service at Zion United Church
7:00 p.m. Family Service at Minden United Church
9:00 p.m. Communion Service at Maple Lake United Church

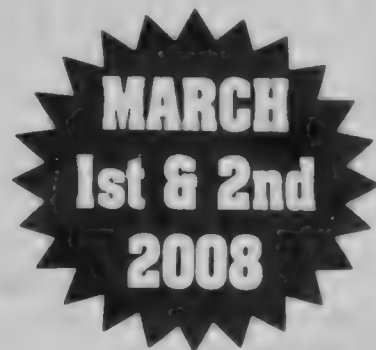


Sunday, Dec. 30

11 a.m. Joint Service at Minden United Church

Sunday, January 6, 2008 (Epiphany)

Regular morning worship services at each church



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Red Hawk wrestling team off to a flying start

PAUL KLOSE

Special to the Echo

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School wrestlers began their competitive season last week with two tournaments. On Wednesday, December 5, senior wrestlers travelled to Peterborough for the Kenner High School Invitational while junior wrestlers competed in Ajax the following day.

The Red Hawk wrestling team began practising in early November to prepare for a hectic tournament schedule in December. Coaches Klose and Fockler are impressed with the dedication of the athletes this year. They are hard-working and eager to learn technique. It's a pleasure to work with such a keen, coachable group.

At last week's tournaments, 18 HHSS wrestlers placed in the top four of their weight class. The coaches are extremely pleased with this performance so early in the season. The team is lead by a core of senior males who have established themselves as premier wrestlers in the league. While the veteran athletes show great promise, the coaches are equally impressed with the junior female wrestlers that have taken up the sport this year. These first-year athletes have great potential as they continue to develop wrestling technique.

Results:

Junior Girls Division

Bronze Medal – Katelyn Espie (54 kg)

Silver Medal – Nicole Mazara (44 kg),

Sasha White (51 kg), Mikaela Charlebois (57.5 kg)



Karl Kadwell, on top, locks his opponent in a reverse cradle on his way to the championship round.

Junior Boys Division

4th place – Connor Cowan (47.5 kg),

Alex Wingrove (95 kg)

Bronze Medal – Craig Mulholland (47.5 kg)

Senior Girls Division

4th place – Tori Brown (51 kg), Jamie Purnell (54 kg)

Bronze Medal – Christianna Walker (51 kg)

Gold Medal – Nicole Phillips (44 kg), Adriana Ellis (72 kg)

Senior Boys Division

4th place – Mitch Rea (83 kg), Will Pentesco (83 kg),

Colin Ellis (95 kg)

Silver Medal – Alex Purnell (47.5 kg), Cody Griffin (64 kg)

Gold Medal – Karl Kadwell (77 kg)

Photo submitted by HHSS

HIGH CANADIAN DOLLAR		MAXIMUM TRADE PROGRAM		EVEN LOWER PRICES!	
2007 CHRYSLER SEBRING TOURING  32K V6, AUTO, 4 DR, 17" ALLOYS, CD, LOADED, P/SEAT, BAL OF WARRANTY. STK#8511 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$17,995 \$15,995	2002 DODGE CARAVAN SE V6, AUTO, 4 DR, CD, TINTED GLASS, 80K, LOADED, ROOF RACK, BALANCE OF 7/115K WARRANTY. STK#8352 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$12,995 \$9,995	2004 CHRYSLER SEBRING TOURING V6, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, LOADED, 2 WAY REMOTE START, BALANCE OF GOLD & POWERTRAIN WARRANTY. 46K STK#8282 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$14,995 \$10,995	2005 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE V6, AUTO, 4 DR, CD, 54K, LOADED, KEYLESS ENTRY, FOG LIGHTS, WARRANTY. STK#8299 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$12,995 \$10,995	2005 GMC JIMMY SLS 4X4 V6, AUTO, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, LOADED, 86K, KEYLESS, 1 OWNER TRADE. STK#8402 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$16,995 \$13,995	2007 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER 4 CYL, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, 20K, LOADED, SPOILER, WARRANTY. STK#8436 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$17,995 \$14,995
2005 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4 V6, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, LOADED, 87K, RUNNING BOARDS, TRAILER TOW GROUP. STK#8414 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$19,995 \$16,995	2005 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING 3.5L V6, AUTO, 4 DR, P/SUN-ROOF, 17" ALLOYS, 6 DISC CD, H/LEATHER, LOADED, 73K, 1 OWNER, WARRANTY. STK#8497 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$19,995 \$17,995	2007 DODGE GR. CARAVAN SE V6, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, LOADED, 29K, REAR HEAT, STOW 'N GO, P/SEAT, WARRANTY. STK#8500 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$19,995 \$17,995	2004 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB 4X4 V8, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, 43K, LOADED, TRAILER TOW, TONNEAU COVER, WARRANTY. STK#8503 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$20,995 \$18,995	2006 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4 V6, AUTO, 4 DR, ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, LOADED, 53K, TRAILER TOW, P/SEAT, WARRANTY. STK#8468 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$24,995 \$21,995	2006 NISSAN XTRAIL 4 CYL, AUTO, 4 DR, P/SUNROOF, ALLOYS, 6 DISC CD, TINTED GLASS, 52K, LOADED, 1 OWNER TRADE IN. STK#8419 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$24,995 \$21,995
2007 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB 4X4 V8, AUTO, 4 DR, 20" ALLOYS, CD, TINTED GLASS, LOADED, CHROME SIDE STEPS, WARRANTY. 39K STK#8453 U.S. PRICE ADJUSTMENT WAS \$29,995 \$27,995					

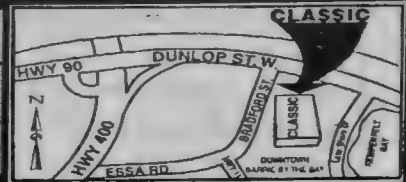
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Head for the hill

For the first time ever, Sir Sams Ski Resort has all 12 runs open for the first weekend of operation. On Dec. 7, opening day, all but one hill was opening and runs were accessible from two operating quad chairs. More than 300 people came out to enjoy the first day on the slopes and only one sprained wrist was reported, not bad considering there was a whole whack of kids on the hill on a P.D. day.

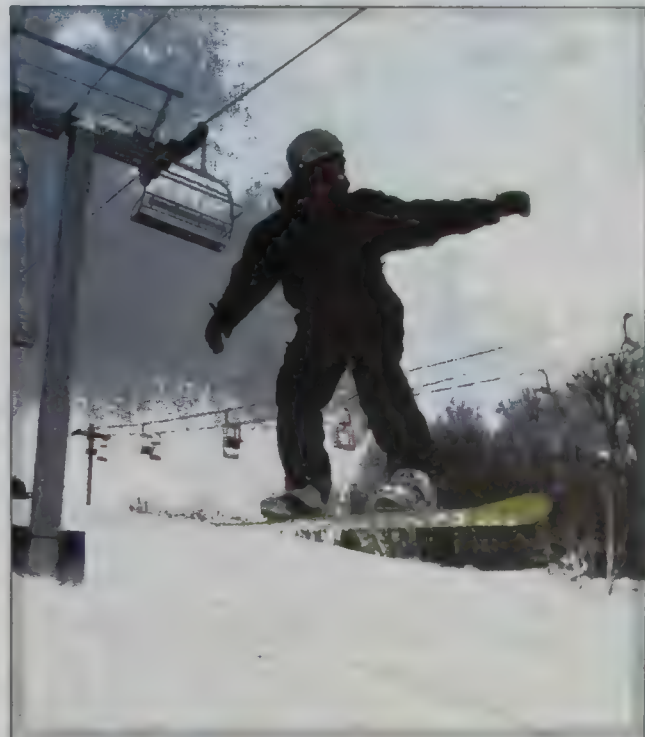
TOP LEFT: Madison Rallis, 16, of Haliburton purposely avoids the rail and opts to pop some air instead. The rail slide was of course a popular spot on opening day.

TOP RIGHT: The hill is one of the only places where teens can loiter; this group takes full advantage as they watch friends hit the slopes.

BOTTOM LEFT: While he certainly doesn't look it, 75-year-old Vincent Reiss of Haliburton takes in the beautiful view of Eagle Lake.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Home sweet home. Haliburton local J.T. Lowes hits a drop off, the 25-year-old recently returned to Haliburton after traveling and living in western Canada.

Photos by Matt James



your letters

The Echo welcomes Letters to the Editor.

Submissions must be signed, dated, and include a telephone number of verification.

The Echo reserves the right to edit submissions for taste, legality and brevity.

Mail your letters to:
The Editor
Box 360,
Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0
Email: editor@haliburtonecho.ca

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Masters' Bookstore, the Church Office
(Tuesday - Friday from 9:00 am -
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Santa pays a visit to the Loop

community news

harcourt

Valerie Smith

448-3640

We are very pleased that the upper, front portion of the Algonquin Cookhouse has opened under the management of Jan Sorensen. It's called Mumford Station Café in honour of the Irondale, Bancroft & Ottawa (I.B. & O.) Railway's Mumford Station that was once located at mile marker 34.9 Harcourt. Jan has the focus and drive needed for a small business and has plenty of experience in the food hospitality industry. Jan chose a café atmosphere as she wanted to create a place in the neighborhood that is comfy and warm and where you can relax with friends over coffee or a meal. The Café is roomy enough to accommodate larger groups up to 60 people and is available for special dinner occasions. Mumford Station Café offers extensive menu choices, warm atmosphere and is very welcoming sans the clique-y "who's the stranger?" feeling. It is open Monday to Friday 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact Jan at 448 9960.

Tragedy often strikes when one least expects it. This was the case for George and Joanne Callfus who awoke

in the middle of the night to discover their home engulfed in flames. George and Joanne managed to escape the blaze unharmed. However, they were unable to gather up no more than the clothes they hurriedly threw on. Fierce flames quickly engulfed their entire home behind their retreating figures. Upon arrival the firefighting unit discovered a deeply seated fire that extended fully through the house. The crews fought both the fire and the very frigid temperatures that continually threatened to freeze hose lines, equipment and the firefighters themselves.

The wet, tired and frozen firemen tried in vain to combat the fully engaged blaze for hours. Their strong efforts were not in vain as they were able to contain the fire to the one home preventing it from spreading to other nearby residences and buildings. In the morning light, a blackened shell was all that was left of George and Joanne's home. Everything this couple had managed to build into their home is now all gone but the memories.

We wish George and Joanne courage, strength and positive energy as they rebuild their household together. For further information call Debbie Shatraw at 448-3155 or Valerie Smith at 448-3640.

"Giving" is the ultimate gift of kindness. With the advent of winter, a very urgent need for warm children clothing and boots is required in our local community.

See **Food bank** page 17

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Countdown to Christmas Shopping Guide

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Food bank calls out for donations

from page 16

Snowsuits are in great demand and food donations would be most welcomed. The Word of Life Food Bank shelves need to be replenished. Please bring in non perishable food items such as canned fruit and vegetables, pork and beans, ham, tuna, salmon and stews. Also, welcome are items including pasta, rice, sugar, spaghetti sauce, tea, coffee, and Kraft dinner. Donations are gratefully accepted such as furniture, clothing and household items. Proceeds are used to fund the food bank, to provide for emergency medical needs in the community and to help meet operating expenses. For further information for Wilberforce Word of Life Clothing Outreach and Food Bank please call 448-9707 and Highland Grove Word of Life Clothing Outreach at 448-9406.

We wish Tom Coghlan all the very best in his new residence at the Hyland Crest senior citizens' home, 6 McPherson Street, Room 145, Minden. Tom has always been a very sociable person and continues to enjoy visits and hearing from friends. Cards may be sent to the attention of Tom Coghlan, Harcourt K0L 1X0 and one of his family members will make sure he gets it.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Bud Storey.

Happy Birthday wishes go out to my father, Elwin Oakes. Elwin celebrated his 81 years young surrounded by his family. Highlight of his birthday festivities was the family joining together to sing favourite Christmas carols and great granddaughter Rachel singing a Christmas song that she will be singing at her school's Christmas concert.

Upcoming events in Harcourt:

December 12: Bingo is held every Wednesday evening starting at 7:30 p.m. Harcourt Community Centre. For more information call Debbie Shatraw at 448-3155.

December 13: Progressive Euchre is held every Thursday evening starting at 7:30 p.m. Harcourt Community Centre. Cost is only \$2. Come out for an evening of great fun playing euchre followed by a light social lunch. For more information call Mel or Valerie Smith at 448-3640.

December 16: Harcourt Community Chapel presents their Christmas Concert featuring youth and children starting at

7:00 p.m. Children will put on their program. Treats and gifts will be available for children and refreshments for everyone. Everyone is welcome. For more information please call 448 CARE (2273)

December 31: New Year's Eve Dance at the Harcourt Community Centre. Dance to the great sounds of live band "Generations". Light lunch and party favours. Time: 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Admission \$30 per couple.

The Harcourt Community Centre is available for rent for weddings, anniversaries, etc. Please contact Debbie at (705) 448 3155 for more information.

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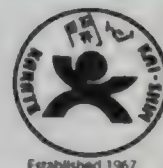
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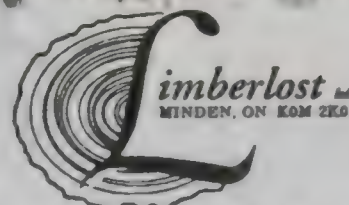
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Lease for

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Lease APR

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DOWN PAYMENT	MONTHLY PAYMENT
\$0	\$249 [†]
\$1,789	\$181 [†]
\$2,789	\$142 [†]
\$3,789	\$104 [†]

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**2008
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Purchase Price

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Lease for

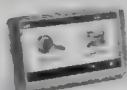
\$289[†] per month for 27 months with \$769 down payment

Lease APR

2.99%

OTHER 27 MONTH LEASES	
DOWN PAYMENT	MONTHLY PAYMENT
\$0	\$319 [†]
\$1,769	\$252 [†]
\$2,769	\$213 [†]
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Make it a special Christmas for someone and take an angel



The community is invited to the CIBC over the next week to help buy presents for underprivileged kids. Just swing by the CIBC in Haliburton and take an angel off the special Christmas tree. Buy a present for the specified sex and age group written on the back of the angel and bring the unwrapped gift back to the CIBC. There's no minimum or maximum on the gift, just give what you want to give!

Above: Girl Guide Lindsay Jowett puts an angel on the tree.

Middle: from back to front is Ron Mark, director of the 4Cs food bank, CIBC financial advisor Erin Attard, Michelle Wolfe-Miscio, leader of the Girl Guides Senior Branch, and Girl Guide Sarah Day who also helped decorate the tree.

Right: Sarah Day hangs another angel.



Photos by
Matt James



Haliburton County Home Builders Association 12th Annual Christmas Toy & Food Drive



November 19
to
December 19/07

Thanks to the fifty plus companies who collected gifts during the toy drive last year these gifts and many more were delivered throughout the county

- ☐ Toy or Food Drive Sponsor / Donor:
Collect at your company, school or organization
- ☐ Toy or Food Drive: Drop off location: public to drop location
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CONTACT PERSON _____

Call
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FAX 705-457-3436
OR MAIL THIS FORM TO

H.C.H.B.A., Box 299, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0
Or email atose@hchba.ca to arrange pick up of items.

Call
457-2629

Reach For The Future



For the **tenth** year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters.

Help us reach our **\$90,000 Holiday Goal** to invest in the technology for Diagnostic Imaging.

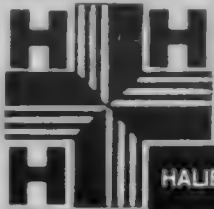
As of December 6, 2007 we have raised **\$29,085** towards our goal.

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Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank our Honourary Chairman for our 2007 "Reach for The Future" campaign, Dr. Bob Heyes and Dr. Dave Fiddler

If you would like to help us "Reach for The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0, you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities, or you can donate online at www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation.htm



A Foundation for the Health of the Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION



Bob Snider, above, delighted local folk music fans when he played at Tracey's Bistro on Saturday night, proving why he's been called a 'national treasure' and 'author of some of the best Canadian songs of the decade.' Opening the Haliburton Folk Society concert was Haliburton's Thom Lambert, at left.

DAVID TAYLOR/Special to The Echo

Legion dance tickets on sale

Welcome in the new year with Willy and the Poor Boys

community news

legion br. 129

Carol Stamp

457-2571

Well, after such an exciting month we are in the Christmas season. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our November 11 service and dinner. It sure was a great success and everyone enjoyed the dinner and the after-dinner speeches (even the airplane throwing contest).

Just a reminder to all members that the last general meeting until the spring will be held on Dec. 13 at 7:30 pm. Try and make an effort to come out and help your executive to conduct the business of the branch.

Remember the Christmas meat roll on Dec. 14 will offer prime rib roasts, turkeys and hams as prizes.

The New Year's dance tickets will be on sale Dec. 1 at the bar. To reserve a ticket call Carla at the Branch 457-2571. This dance is open to everyone. This year we will be dancing to the music of Willy and The Poor Boys and a late lunch will be served. Tickets are \$25/person.

The \$1,000 bingo will be held on Dec. 19. Come out and try your luck and someone will have an extra bit of cash to spend at Christmas.

Our branch will close at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve

and closed all day on Christmas Day.

At our November general meeting a \$1,000 donation was approved for the 4Cs from our Lottery Trust Account.

Our branches wish all our community a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. See you in 2008.

Dec. 11: Cadets

Dec. 12: Bingo

Dec. 14: Christmas Meat Draw

Dec. 18: Blood Donor Clinic

Dec. 19: \$1,000 Bingo

Dec. 21: Meat Draw

Dec. 24: Club Room closed at 6:00 pm.

Dec. 28: Meat Draw

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Dance

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Students' artwork impresses Legion members

community news

legion br. 624

Mel Smith

The Wilberforce Elementary School had a total of 40 entries into our Legion Poster and Literacy Remembrance Day Contest. Thank you and job well done to all participants and winners.

Primary Grades 1, 2 & 3 Colour Poster participants Kendra Anderson, Brooke Billings, Nolan Davidson-Blakey, Austin French, Carmen Galea, Lucas Hunter, Brittany Lampman, Melinda Meharrie, Rebecca Pacey, Kadie Raimsey, Samantha Savard, Jesse Allan Scott, Dillon Tallman and Jason Wood.

Primary Grades 1, 2 & 3 Colour Poster winners Mark Lewis, first place; Lily Rose Drain, second place; and Dylan Smith, third place.

Junior Grades 4, 5, & 6 Black and White Poster participant Mathew Hunter.

Junior Grades 4, 5 & 6 Black and White Poster winners: Patricia Savard, first; Beth Lynn Waugh, second; and Lloyd Adam Byrnes, third.

Thank you and job well done to our Junior Grades 4, 5, & 6 Colour Poster participants: Zachary Aylsworth, Susie Cachia, Tyler Casey and Taylor Lewis.

Congratulations to our Grades 4, 5 and 6 Colour Poster winners: Rebecca Lee Anderson, first; Stan Riley, second; and Kelsey Maracle, third.

Junior Grades 4, 5, 6 Essay winners: Patricia Savard, who wrote on "Can't Turn Back" placed First; Taylor Lewis's essay "To The Soldiers" placed second; and Jade Stickwood's essay "How did you do it" placed third.

Junior Grades 4, 5, 6 Poetry participants: Lloyd Calfus, "Floor of Poppies", and Kelsey Maracle. "Dear Soldiers".

Junior Grades 4, 5, 6 Poetry winners: Patricia Savard's "Remembrance" placed First; Shenese Alden's "Once Alive" placed second; and Phedra Vajda's "Broken Lives" placed third.

This year we had some primary students take part in the essay contest. They did very well and we thank them for their excellent contributions. Carmen Galea's essay "I Bow Down To You" placed first and Mark Lewis's "Tanks and Guns" placed second. In the primary poem contest Dylan Smith placed first and Dillon Tallman second.

Len Crawford, Valerie Smith and Mel Smith were on hand to make presentation to the winners. All participants received a participation ribbon and framed participation certificate. First-place winners also received \$20, second-place winners received \$15 and third-place winners

received \$10. We wish first-place winners all the very best as they proceed to Zone competitions.

On December 9 our L.A. put on a fantastic Brunch once again. A big thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen who assisted. December 9 was also the day of the Wilberforce Santa Clause Parade. Congratulations to Len Crawford, our Sgt. at Arms, and Colour Party for bearing up to the cold and marching in the parade.

We have just two weeks left until Christmas Eve, and three weeks until New Year's Eve. How would you like to spend New Year's Eve at the Delta Pinestone Resort? This will include your dinner, dance, accommodations, and breakfast. Tickets for the raffle are available from our Bar Steward. The Winning ticket will be drawn December 22.

Don't forget to get your tickets for our New Year's Eve party at the Wilberforce Legion. Pat Casselman will be the D.J.. Tickets are available from the Bar Steward at a cost of \$35 per couple and \$18 for singles. There will be party favours and a light lunch at 11. Come out and bring in the New Year with your friends at Wilberforce Legion. Call 448-2221 if you have any further questions.

Let's We Forget:

Get well wishes go out to: Lore Harris who is at Peterborough Hospital, and Betty Eves who is in New Market Hospital.



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Ho, ho, ho, there was lots of falling snow on Dec. 9 for the Wilberforce Santa Claus parade. The creative floats were awesome fun. As a bus was dressed up as a reindeer and an ice castle was made of plastic bottles! As the parade wrapped up, hundreds of people filled the community centre where Clara Burt sang Christmas carols as the little ones unwrapped presents after a visit with Santa. Above, these three prancing princesses were a crowd favourite; the ponies were also well liked. At right, Minden's Nicole Honderich, 12, was in the Christmas spirit.

A perfect day for a parade

- Story by Valerie Smith, photos by Matt James -

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. It is a special time for little ones and the child in every adult. A time for happy greetings and spreading good cheer to everyone. This was in evidence this past Sunday as families and friends lined the streets of Wilberforce to see the parade and the arrival of Santa Claus. Year by year the parade grows drawing more and more excited spectators and more and more parade participants.

Following the festive parade, many excited little people, accompanied by their family and

friends, entered the Lloyd Watson Centre where Clara Burt's beautiful voice led them in one of the special joys of the season, carol singing. A number of the youngsters joined Clara at the mike and very officiously helped her lead the singing. The children were also, treated, to craft centers, snacks, and a visit with that jolly old fellow whose round belly shook like a bowl full of jelly. Following their visit with Santa, children 10 years and under were presented with a special gift.

It was a very pleasant surprise to have special guest, MPP Laurie

Scott, drop by for a visit with Santa and friends. Thank you for extending your Christmas wishes to the Loop communities.

A note of thanks is extended to some very special Christmas Elves. We are grateful to Dennis Weymouth and the special role he played and extend a big thank you to this year's Santa Claus for taking time out of his very busy schedule and visiting all the little boys and girls. Accolades are extended to parade organizers Lynn Waugh and Joanne Hughey for a fantastic parade and a big thank you to Lynn and her

daughter Beth for selecting the gifts. Special thank you to Tammy Donaldson for taking all the pictures and to her two helpers Donna Burroughs and Melissa Lewis. The pictures will be treasured memories for many years to come. Thanks to Angie and Jenna Scott; Lynn and Beth Waugh; Jackie Dempster, Sheri, Caitlyn, and Barb Andrew. A big note of thanks is extended to Kathy Rogers and her Pathfinders and friends; Sam, Carolyn, Tessa, Bill, Julie, Leah and Angie for their delightful goodies and refreshments. We thank all the participants for taking part and perpetuating the parade tradition.

Very special thanks is extended to all of our benevolent sponsors, the businesses and individuals who have made monetary and in-kind donations over the years to make the gift giving possible. Thank you is extended to the firefighters who prepared and distributed treats to all the children and appreciation to the Volunteer Police Association for directing

traffic during the parade. Also, thank you to Highlands East for the use of the Lloyd Watson Centre. Their continued and unselfish generosity strengthens and enriches the lives of the children living within the Loop.

This was my 7th year to take part in the Loop Children's Christmas party. For many years before and during my years of involvement with this great community event, Roberta and Max Walsh were always on hand to lend their organizational skills and help. They were sadly missed this year. We look forward to Roberta joining us again next year. It is a truly inspirational event, appealing not only to the children who took part but to the child in all of us who are privileged to make possible this special event each year. It always brings back golden memories of Christmases past and that very, special and magical feeling of the season. Once again, I was humbled to have been part of such a magical holiday happening.



We're almost positive three-year-old Ashala Fitzgibbon is telling Santa she's been nice and that she wants a pony for Christmas.



It wouldn't be a parade without the Algonquin Shrine Club.

Wilberforce Heritage Guild celebrates the season

community news

wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

Santa Claus came to Wilberforce on December 9. There he was riding once again on a fire truck down the main street. Led by an entertaining parade of floats and walkers Santa waved to and was welcomed by all along the way. He entered the Lloyd Watson Centre to the delight of many youngsters, ready to chat with them and deliver a present to each. What a busy place the hall was with so much to do while waiting one's turn. The stage where Santa held court had been restored and freshly painted earlier this fall and so the lovely decorations showed up

well. Many thanks to all the organizers, helpers and donors who made this important annual event such great fun for the children and all of their families and friends.

Christmas Open House at the Red Cross Outpost last week was a pleasant time. What a joy it was to have the Pathfinders and Sparks take part in the evening program. Their enthusiasm was contagious. As well as good conversation over hot apple cider and sweets the draws for the two John Young paintings were made. Winner of "In My Garden" was Jamie Kellar of Claremont, Ontario. The second prize, "Sacred Garden", went to Mary McCann of Bancroft. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who supported the Wilberforce Heritage Guild by buying tickets on the paintings. The WHG extends appreciation to Barbara Schram of Wilberforce and her brother John Young for the generous donation of the paintings.

Weather may have caused the rescheduling of the Full Gospel Church Sunday School Christmas Concert but from all reports it was still a very joyous event. Lots of

smiles and happy reception for all the presentations by the children and adults alike.

To celebrate the season together a number of Maple View residents enjoyed a delicious Christmas turkey dinner with all the trimmings at the Cross Roads Cafe on Friday December 7.

On Sunday evening, December 9 at the Wilberforce United Church the annual ecumenical Service of Lessons and Christmas Music drew a large choir led by Elsie Lewis and accompanied by Margaret Dugas and Rev. Peter Robertson. Most churches in the area were represented in the choir and as readers. It was good to see Charlie and Myrtle Weedmark from Belleville and also Bob and Lynn Gapes of Marmora visiting for the service. Well received was the song/recitation by a small group of children from the Full Gospel Church Sunday School as were choir pieces, O Holy Night by Caroly Dahlke and the descant by Margaret Jeske in the final carol Silent Night.

The annual Christmas Carol Service at the Historic Essonville Church will be on Sunday December 23 beginning at 7 p.m.. Always lots of opportunities for everyone to sing all their favourite carols and Christmas songs at this concert. All welcome.

Colleen Ward of the Gooderham/Wilberforce United Churches called to let us know who the winners were in their recent raffle. They were Gerald Shackleton of Wilberforce, Loraine Hughey of Harcourt, Jill Lee of Wilberforce and Michelle of Etobicoke. The draw was made at the Gooderham Community Christmas dinner on Saturday, December 8.

The Ladies of the Harcourt Chapel hosted a Victorian Tea on Thursday, December 6. It was a delightful time.

Congratulations to Stanley Beard on the publication of his book of stories from "Over The Hill". Thanks Stan for putting together all the fine tales in this volume. You have such a way with words. This book will be treasured by many for many years to come. They are available at Agnew's here and at Master's Book Store in Haliburton.

The members of the Highlands Festival Singers (the Messiah Choir renamed to better represent what they do) presented a fine and varied program of music in The Sounds Of Christmas concert. The singalong parts were popular. Young Justin van Lieshout, guest artist, was a hit singing several upbeat pieces including We Need A Little Christmas and Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas. The audience and choir were impressed and charmed by all of Justin's music especially when his voice rang out with O Holy Night.

Among all the festivities there has been some unhappiness too. We were very sorry that the home of Joanne Bugg and George Callfas in Harcourt was destroyed by fire early last week. The community has been reaching out to them and hope things get settled for them soon.

WINTER TIRE EVENT

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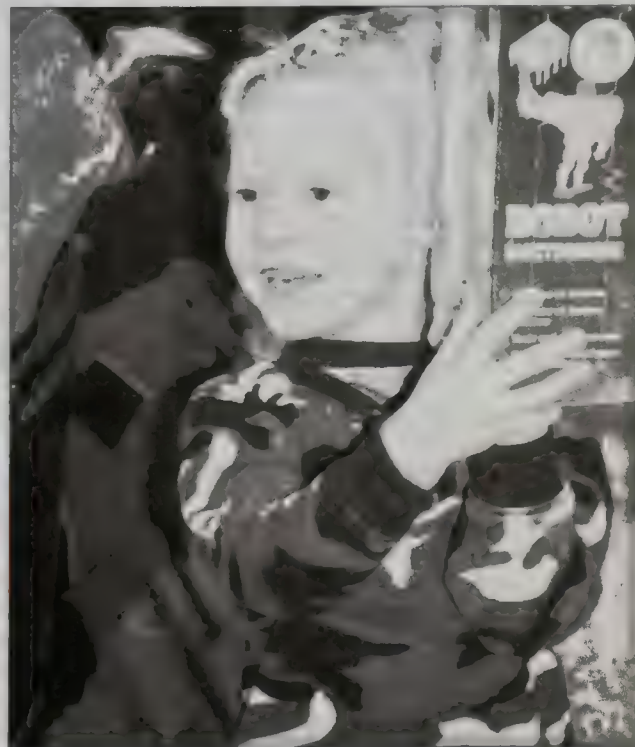
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WINTER TIRE EVENT



Brendan Coumbs, 5, of Haliburton couldn't wait to get his hands on his new Ruff n' Tuff Robot, delivered by Santa after the Wilberforce parade last Saturday.

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Deliberate acts of kindness

John and Thea Patterson build a home where people gather to discuss solutions to global issues

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

DAVID PATTERSON was a toddler when his family moved to London, England. Once a month his pre-school handed out a food voucher to the neediest child in the class. He wasn't there long when he was chosen as a recipient.

"Our child was the poorest kid in the class in the slums of London," laughs Thea Patterson.

It's not so much the story that makes an impact on the listener but the location in which the story is being told.

Thea and her husband John are sitting in large leather chairs in the living room of their home high atop a ridge overlooking Cranberry Lake. You could call the interior of the house – with its huge panoramic windows, cathedral ceiling, glass walls etched with important scenes from their life – majestic but then you'd run out of adjectives to describe the view.

This is not a classic rags-to-riches story, however. The Pattersons do not use such a glorious home as a way of lording over others who have not been so fortunate. If the living room resembles the interior of a church it is not because they wanted a place to worship wealth. Instead, the sense of awe one feels entering the room seems to be a way of letting the spirit – Christian, Hindu, Buddhist – enter into the heart of every visitor.

This house is the Pattersons' way of sharing the blessings of their lives. They are not ashamed of how lucky they have been financially, or try to hide it, just as they were not ashamed when their son David was determined to be the poorest of the poor. Rich and poor are not opposite continuums of their life; they are linked and they are one.

The Pattersons invite people from around the world to visit, not simply for respite or to bask in the restorative peacefulness of living amongst the treetops. Their dining room has two long tables. Upstairs is a seminar room. The outdoor verandahs are big enough to accommodate a crowd. This is a place where ideas about how to resolve some of the biggest conflicts in the world – such as poverty and the HIV/AIDS crisis – are discussed by people who are committed to doing more than talk.

This is the first home the Pattersons have owned. It is not their dream home, Thea explains, because they've always been happy wherever they are, whether it's a hut in India, an apartment squeezed into the Lego towers of Hong Kong or in the lee of Chicago's winds. They didn't wait to be happy, or happier, somewhere else. They've chosen to



MARTHA PERKINS/ECHO



"You get into the lives of people in a remarkable way," John and Thea Patterson say of the approach of the Institute of Cultural Affairs, an approach they carry into all aspects of their lives.

be happy wherever they are.

This is evident in Thea's response to a rather presumptuous question: when they are on their deathbed, looking back on their lives, what is it that they will

want to have achieved?

Thea pauses. "For me it's already happened. It's already been terrific and great and perfect until now. Everything else is icing on the cake. I'm 62 and I think every day for the next 20 to 30 years is just a gift full of surprises, especially living with John."

John, the son of a United Church minister and an ordained minister himself, smiles. The question is not quite the way he would have framed the journey we all take but the simplicity of his answer shows that it's a question he's thought a lot about.

"It has all been spent," he says. "It's been put back in its entirety."

That the love he's been given has been given back. That the intelligence he was born with, and the good fate of the circumstances he was born into, have been used to help others. That the wealth he has obtained is shared, not as charity, but as a tool for making greater things happen.

JOHN PATTERSON and Thea (pronounced Tea-ah) Buwalda grew up within an hour of one another but they met when they were students at Queen's University. Her family had settled near Little Britain while his moved from parish to parish, including some time in Fenelon Falls. He'd been deeply inspired by a year at theological college in Scotland and had returned home for a final year at Queen's Theological College. She was becoming a teacher, a profession that would later provide their economic foundation of their transition from unpaid humanitarian workers to global revolutionaries. (And if

you've ever had someone from India answer your phone call to Bell Canada, the term "revolutionary" won't seem like hyperbole.)

They married in 1970, when John was a United Church minister in Hornepayne and Hearst. The choice of a three-year stint in Northern Ontario was deliberate, part of their growing commitment to community.

When they went to Chicago for John to get his master's in Eastern Orthodoxy, they linked up with the Ecumenical Institute of Chicago, now known as the Institute for Cultural Affairs (www.icacan.ca). Instead of viewing the changes and challenges facing the world as "global," ICA makes them personal. All stories are about people, whether it's global warming, or the AIDS pandemic, or poverty in India. And when people gather, they create cultures. You cannot solve any problem unless it involves people and their cultures.

ICA volunteers work with the people and don't try to change them. (Okay, if there is a cultural belief that if you have sex with a virgin you will be cured of AIDS, ICA will present a counter viewpoint. However, it will work within that culture to do so.)

"You get into the lives of people in a remarkable way," John says of ICA's approach. "You're into the life of the community and it becomes part of you. Living with poor people in their village and just becoming part of the scene is a privilege. You wake up thinking I was blessed to be part of this. 'How did I get so privileged to be part of this?'"

See **Create** page 2

Create jobs or provide aid?

from page 24

Some ICA volunteers last only three weeks living in financially impoverished conditions – “rats crawling over your face is not a pleasant experience,” John says – but the Pattersons stayed for 11 years.

It was when their daughter Miriam was born that they realized that perhaps they should start making money as a way of securing their children’s ability to live out their own dreams.

As mentioned in a 2006 Forbes article, John, as well as three counterparts from ICA, had noticed that Indians have a natural affinity for technology. At the same time – it was the early 1990s – North American companies were clamouring for Information Technology (IT) specialists. Why not marry the two? But instead of having Indians bring their skills to North America, why not bring the jobs to India?

John asks, “Is it better to send aid money to India or to hire people to do jobs for you?”

He and his friends created Kanbay, a software development company that got its name from blending Canada and Bombay. Kanbay’s task was to give Indians the skills that matched their enthusiasms.

“When they found a window of opportunity, India just jumped at it,” John says. What made the initiative work was the “incredible intelligence” of the people and “a very solid education program for a certain portion of the population.

“It’s as though there’s nothing else that’s as important as getting their children educated.”

But even though the Pattersons weren’t getting paid for their work with ICA, they couldn’t afford to live on nothing as John and his partners built Kanbay into an enormously successful company. Kanbay, and perhaps, by extension, Kanbay’s role in providing tools for the technological revolution, would not have been possible for Thea.

It was Thea who supported the family when they moved to Hong Kong, where John was building Kanbay’s Asian market. She had taught at the American Embassy School in New Delhi and now she started teaching at an international school in Hong Kong (where son David was born.)

As John says, “Thea was more immediately productive. She fueled the start up in Hong Kong.”

In Hong Kong, she says, “the only time parents are happy with you is if you’re giving their children 100 per cent.” If the mark was 97 per cent, they’d ask what they could do to help their children get those last three marks. Education leads to good jobs and in Hong Kong, the economy was everything. The determining attitude was “Let’s get ahead financially for me and my family.”

“It’s in everyone you meet,” Thea says and then smiles and thinks of her own upbringing. “It’s like living in a 100 per cent Dutch immigrant community.”

Kanbay kept the Pattersons in Hong Kong for 13 years and they also had the two-year stint in England, as well



Instead of going to other countries and telling people what to do, Institute of Cultural Affairs volunteers believe in facilitating change from within the country. “Unless the local people own the initiative you’re always stuck in the position of having to prop it up,” John says. At right, Thea Patterson meets with a Maasai villager. Other volunteers include Katherine Hagerman and the Pattersons’ daughter Miriam, below.

as six years in Chicago, before the company founders, including Patterson, decided to sell to a French consulting firm.

Kanbay seems built on a faith in people. The company might have developed and provided the software but the people in India and Asia did the work. It was an extension of the Pattersons’ belief in community. You help the community help itself by learning of its strengths and then letting those strengths determine the future.

“Unless the local people own the initiative you’re always stuck in the position of having to prop it up,” John says. “They own it and take responsibility for it so you can walk away from it and know they’re fine. When you see local people boast of what they’ve accomplished, you know they won’t let it die.”

And now that the Pattersons were going to walk away from Kanbay, where were they going to go?

It was the Internet, of course, that brought them to the end of the road overlooking Cranberry Lake. They had considered retiring to many places in many countries but their roots in Canada were drawing them back. They’d both known of Haliburton when they were growing up and thought of it as a beautiful place. “You think ‘gorgeous, hilly, tree-filled, wonderful place to host people,’” Thea says.

See **Change** page 26



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Change comes from within

from page 25

They found the property on a local realtor's website, came for a visit and created Abbey North. Its size is intentional. "You do not build a huge, gorgeous place like this without wanting to share it with others," Thea says. "You ask, 'How can this place be of service?' It's a place of great conversations that need to be had."

Since they had not set out to become wealthy, their newfound wealth did not define them. Whether they are living without electricity or water in India or in a magnificent complex in Haliburton, they are the same people, driven by the same goals of community outreach.

"For Thea and myself," John says, "our lives have been defined by service to other people." It wasn't going to stop now.

The abbey inspiration came from the Island of Iona in Scotland, which John had visited during his "magnificent year" at St. Andrew's University when getting his Master's of Theology. The Iona abbey is etched in one of the glass walls that prevent people from falling over the edge of the second-storey rooms. There's also an etching of Hong Kong and the words "God is one" in Celtic and Sanskrit design.

A speech by Stephen Lewis, former UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, helped determine the Pattersons' next phase in life. While still very much involved with ICA, they now turned their attention within the organization to Africa. In February 2006 they were in Africa and decided to visit the place in Kenya where the Canada World Youth students who visited Haliburton are from. Il Ngwesi is a community-owned group ranch, home to 730 Maasai families.

It was only a three-hour visit but things happened quickly. The Pattersons were asked if they'd help deliver a local response to the problem of HIV/AIDS. They did not immediately say yes. Back home, they thought about it and, using their experience in India, came up with a plan.

Change couldn't come from outside. They had to work with the people of Il Ngwesi. Being Canadian, the Pattersons' first suggestion was to do a survey to find out what people knew, what they cared about and what services were available. Next came a three-day planning session that involved four ICA volunteers and the people of Il Ngwesi, including the women. "All of a sudden," Thea says, there was "this whoosh of energy and excitement."

From within there was an "incredible movement of training and enlightenment." The young people, knowing the cultural barriers, worked with the community leaders to come up with an education program that respected Maasai culture instead of attempt to change it.

"They were very sensitive to not annoying or irritating their elders,"



John says.

It worked. Today, more than 90 per cent of all Il Ngwesi residents know about the disease and how it's transmitted. Mobile testing is letting people know if they have the disease, and others have been mobilized to teach people how to prevent it. There are trained caregivers and support services. The stigma of having HIV/AIDS has been reduced.

"They weren't told they had to change their traditions," John stresses. "They

said, 'We know some of our traditions will have to change.'

"They awakened to the change that was necessary in their own society. It does not get better than that. They said, 'We want to do this. Can you help us figure it out?' It's not our project. It's their project."

Some of the volunteers with the project are from Haliburton, including the Pattersons' neighbour, Katherine Hagerman, as well as the Pattersons' daughter Miriam. Local groups such as

the Abbey North Drummers and Outloud Womyn's Voices have raised money for the fundraising branch of ICA Canada. Listen to the Drumming.

Is the Pattersons' work done? Of course not. The seminar room in their house is lined with wall charts, and files are stacked on the table, waiting to be addressed. The room is empty now, but it won't be for long. The Pattersons' energy, commitment and compassion has yet to be spent.

The women of Il Ngwesi were very pleased to have been included in the discussion on how to help combat AIDS in Kenya. Stephen Lewis, the former UN envoy on HIV/AIDS, says that is if the women of Africa who will bring about change.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** Monday January 7th, 2008.
- **TIME:** 7:00 pm.
- **LOCATION:** Council Chambers in the Municipal Office
135 Maple Ave., Haliburton Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Lands of Bartholomew:
 - Purpose and Effect: to recognize the existing seasonal residential use of the property.
 - Zone change from "CT-3" to "WR4L".
 - Location: Part of Lot 4, Concession 1, Harcourt Township (Farquhar Lake – Osborne Lane).

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of Dysart et al before the proposed zoning by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Municipality of Dysart et al to the Ontario Municipal Board.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of Dysart et al before the proposed zoning by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

FURTHER INFORMATION: including the draft by-law is available from the Planning Department at the Municipality Office during regular office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 11th day of December, 2007.

Patricia Martin, B.E.S., MCIP, RPP
Municipal Planner



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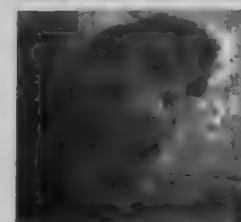
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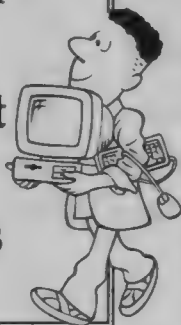
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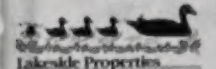
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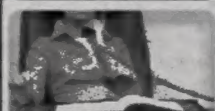
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more, preferably not
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have two adult but very
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part of the package. All
in all there are four
low-maintenance but
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call home. I hope you
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Legal Notices A900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE LESLIE EDWARD ILES

All creditors and others having claims against
the Estate of **LESLIE EDWARD ILES** late, of
the Township of Dysart, in the County of Hal-
iburton, who died on or about the 21st day of
November 2007, are required to file the par-
ticulars of such claim with the undersigned
solicitor for the said estate on or before the
3rd day of January 2008.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date
named, the assets of the said Estate will be
distributed amongst the persons entitled
hereto by the Estate Trustee of the Estate,
having regard only to the claims of which the
solicitor below shall have notice.

Dated at Haliburton, Ontario this 30th day of
November, 2007.

RAYMOND G. SELBIE
Barrister, Solicitor
P.O. Box 186
Haliburton, Ontario
KOM 1S0

Legal Notices A900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ROBERT JAMES MORROW, Sr.

All creditors and others having claims against
the Estate of **Robert James Morrow Sr.**, late,
of the Township of Dysart, in the County of Hal-
iburton, who died on or about the 5th day
of November 2007, are required to file the par-
ticulars of such claim with the undersigned
solicitor for the said estate on or before the
26th day of December 2007.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date
named, the assets of the said Estate will be
distributed amongst the persons entitled
hereto by the Estate Trustee of the Estate,
having regard only to the claims of which the
solicitor below shall have notice.

Dated at Haliburton, Ontario this 23rd day of
November, 2007.

RAYMOND G. SELBIE
Barrister, Solicitor
P.O. Box 186
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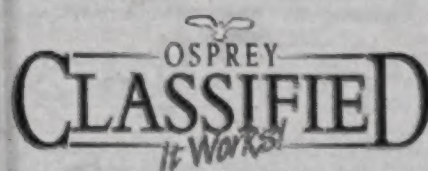
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Coming Events

A940

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- Sports Group -
We are organizing an afternoon sports group.
Offering Euchre, Cribbage, Bridge, Darts, Pool, Shuffleboard Etc.
If interested Call Bill Timms - 754-2799 / 457-2571

Coming Events

A940

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

at
The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129
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December 31, 2007
8:30 - 1:00 am
Hot / Cold Buffet
Music By
"Willy and the Poor Boys"
\$25.00/ Per person
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Coming Events

A940

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Coming Events

A940

Haliburton Rotary Club's
SNOWARAMA

RIDE For Easter Seals Kids.
January 26, 2008 at
Haliburton Forest.
Your Pledge of Financial Support
would be greatly appreciated.
Donations can be mailed to:
The Haliburton Rotary Club
C/O Arthur Dawson
P.O. Box 515
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A registered Receipt will be issued

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Coming Events

A940

WINTERGREEN MAPLE SYRUP AND
PANCAKE BARN

Christmas Social

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

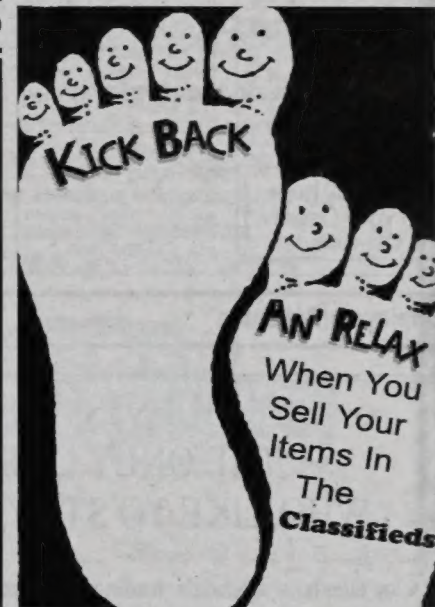
Sat/Sun Dec. 15 & 16 and Sat/Sun Dec. 22 & 23

MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Surprise family and friends with exotic food gifts for Christmas. Wintergreen specializes in custom-made sauces, syrups and preserves unlike anything in the marketplace. Our latest creations are drawn from the past: Old-Fashioned Spiced Crabapples, ideal with meats; colourful Gingered Pumpkin Preserve; and our newest line of Fruit Wine Vinegars, ideal for salads or marinades. Numerous products can be assembled into a variety of gift baskets to make excellent hostess or Christmas gifts. Our regular maple menu will be available while you shop, and taste many of the products at our sample table. Pies will be available (phone to reserve). Cash or cheque only. Come and enjoy Christmas at WINTERGREEN.

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Performing Arts
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Adults \$10.00 Students \$5.00
Family Rate: \$20.00
For information call 457-2862

Announcements

Deaths

GRIFFIN, Moss L. - (Korean War Veteran) Passed away at his home in Keswick on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 in his 75th year. Loving husband of Heather of 33 years. Father of Carl (Mary) Griffin, Ralph Griffin, Brenda Love, Stephen (Natasha) Griffin, Kenneth (Katrina) Horne, Kimberly (Martin) Nadeau. Cherished grandfather of 12 grandchildren. Survived by his sister Charlotte Ruttan and brothers Neil and Grenville Griffin. Predeceased by 1 sister and 6 brothers. Vern will be greatly missed by his many family members and friends. Funeral Service was held from M.W. BECKER FUNERAL HOME, 490 the Queensway South, Keswick 905-476-7711 on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. Interment Queensville Cemetery. If desired donations made to the charity of choice would be appreciated by the family.

CARD OF THANKS

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the help along the way,
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Deaths

HERLIEY, Elizabeth "Bette" (Nee Byers) - Passed away suddenly at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on Saturday, December 8, 2007. In her 98th year.

Beloved wife of the late Malcolm Robertson "Bob" Herlihey. Dear mother of Heather Judson of London, Robert Herlihey and his wife Donna of Mississauga. Loving grandmother of Ian and his wife Bernice, Taylor and his wife Denise, Neil, Andrew, Jessica, Dana, Francesca and great grandmother of Merlin. Dear sister of Walter Byers and his wife Betty. Fondly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the **Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd.**, 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. Then to the Minden United Church for the Funeral Service on Saturday, December 15, 2007 at 11:00 am. Spring Interment at the Minden Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or the Minden United Church would be appreciated by the family.



OSPREY CLASSIFIEDS "IN MEMORIAM"
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Deaths

MILLER, Floyd Milton - Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Saturday, December 1, 2007. In his 81st year.

Beloved husband of the late Margaret Lydia (nee Coulter) (October 8, 2007). Dear father of Royce and his wife Donna, Dianne and her husband Dino, Betty-Jo and Tom. Loving grandfather of Sam, Rayne, Ryan, Damien and Ally. Dear brother of Hazel Johnson (Dorward deceased), Mabel Hewitt (Murray deceased) and Ray Miller (Caryl). Fondly remembered by Fern Miller, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the **Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd.**, 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Funeral Service in the Chapel at 2:00 pm.

Reception to follow in the family centre at the funeral home.

Spring interment at St. Stephen's Cemetery, Boshkung.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family.

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In memoriam

BIRD, Dianne - In loving memory of a loving daughter who left us four years ago December 11, 2003.

My heart still aches with sadness
And secret tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you
no one will ever know.
Each time I see your photo
you seem to smile and say,
"Don't cry, I'm only sleeping,
We'll meet again someday."

- Sadly missed by Mom Marg Harrison

COWAN, Marilyn - In memory of a wonderful caring wife, mother and grandma who passed away December 11, 2002

We often think of bygone days,
When we were all together.
The family chain is broken now,
But memories will live forever.
To us, she has not gone away,
Nor has she travelled far,
Just entered God's eternal home,
And left the gate ajar.

"Missing you and loving you always,
Russell,
Paul & Kim, Lauren, Adam, Jeff & Hilary,
Chris & Kim, Brady & Paige

DAWSON, Clifford A - Who passed away ten years ago on December 12, 1997.

Today recalls sad memories of our dear
Father gone to rest, and the ones who
think of him today are the ones
who loved him best.

- Always remembered and sadly missed
by his daughter Kathy and son-in-law
Keith

Announcements

In memoriam

STEWART, Berneice - In Loving memory of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who passed away December 12, 2002. Just a thought of sweet remembrance Just a memory, sad and true Just the love and sweet devotion Of the ones who think of you Forever in our thoughts - Brier, Dawn and Families

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In memoriam

STEWART, Berneice - In Loving memory of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who passed away December 12, 2002.

*Gram,
We thought of you with love today
but this is nothing new,
we thought about you yesterday,
and days before that too.
We think of you in silence,
and often speak your name.
All we have are memories,
and your picture frames.
You memory is our keepsake,
with which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping,
we have you FOREVER in our hearts.*
- Amanda, Clay, Bill, Lori, Ashley & Thomas



Engagements

*Friends and Family
are Pleased to announce
the
Engagement of
Eric Switzer
&
Kelly Paradie.
Wedding to take place
October 31, 2008.*

OSPREY
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in Words

*The
Memories
No Better Way
To Express
Your Feelings*

Deaths

Deaths



Lee "Rocker" Robinson

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Monday morning, December 3, 2007 in his 28th year. Beloved son of Howie of Haliburton and Laurie McCord of Carnarvon. Cherished grandson of Lillian Johnson of Oakville. Loving brother of Shawn (Barb), and Matthew (Stephanie) all of Haliburton. Also lovingly remembered by his nieces Loren, Lexie and nephew Bronson and his many friends.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends may call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Thursday morning, December 6, 2007 from 10 o'clock until time of Funeral Service in the Chapel at 11 o'clock. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Central East Community Care Access Centre (CECCAC) would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

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Monk
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A Candlelight Memorial Service

You are cordially invited to ...



A Light in the Darkness

To Celebrate Christmas
for those who are
experiencing grief

Tuesday December 18, 2007, 7 p.m.
Haliburton Community Funeral Home

13523 Hwy. 118, Haliburton, Ontario

Refreshments will be served following the service.

Special Music by Organist Glenda Dunning & Soloist Glenda Burk

Through music, scriptures, meditations and prayers.

A service of reflection for those who have experienced loss
and find it hard to be part of festive celebrations.

With clergy and volunteers from local churches and the community

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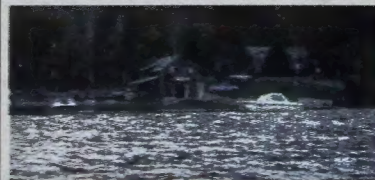


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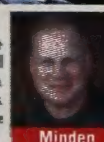
Peter Brady • Ext 234 • 457-1011



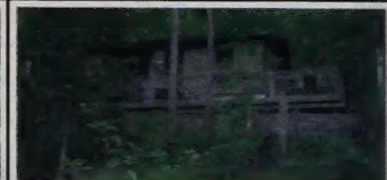
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Turn-key rural residential property on 5.76 acres, 2+1 bdrms, 2 baths, lg eat-in kit, w/ sep dining area, HP laundry rm., att. 2 car gar. Many upgrades - all ceramic & laminate flooring thru-out, new shingles 106 & new drilled well pump. Newly renovated 1st flr. family rm. with w/o. 2 WEST certified wood stoves. Central lake access 2 minutes away. Sugar bush pastured. 1 km to the 5-Pointe roadhouse/ATV/dirt bike trail system. Call Steve Brand

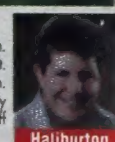


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\$229,000

Portage Lake: Super cottage, close to Haliburton. Nestled along the sand shoreline w/ over 150 ft. of frtg. for good privacy. This 3 bdrm., 1 bath, cottage has a great view of the lake, w/ a sandy beach, & deep water off the end of the dock. Off a yr. md. township road. Call Geoff Bunn



Geoff Bunn • Ext 242 • 457-1011

Call a
RE/MAX
representative
for a free
Property
Evaluation



\$279,000

Finish to your taste! 3 bdrm. cottage on motor Bal Lake. 204 ft. frtg. 1.95 acres, privacy galore on a yr. md. road. Amazing lot w/ gate & lamp-lit driveway. Cottage has been raised w/ brand new basement underneath. Basement has 3 w/o's. Call Terry Carr



Terry Carr • Ext 236 • 457-1011



\$209,000

Gull River: A short distance up from Gull Lake. A delightful 3 bdrm. cottage, 4 pc. bath, w/o master, Canoe kitchen, FP, airtight, main floor ldr., new roof, freshly painted, level lot, hard sand w/ shallow entry, completely winterized & 2 km to Minden. Call Fred Chapple

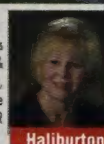


Fred Chapple • Ext 43 • 286-2911



\$84,900

1.15 ac property. Located on a yr. md. road, less than 10 min. from the amenities of Minden Village & has plenty of space. 2 bdrm. home, huge front deck, perennial gardens, 4 pc. bathroom w/ stackable washer & dryer, open kit./DR area, cozy LR w/ laminate wood flooring. Call Deb Deremo



Deb Deremo • Ext 239 • 457-1011



\$199,900

Charming Country Home: Situated on 3.65 acres with a mixture of field & forest. The log portion of the home is full of history & charm while the addition provides a modern touch w/ high coth. ceiling, new kit., bathroom w/ whirlpool type tub & a lot for whatever you have in mind. Call Vince Duchene



Vince Duchene • Ext 225 • 457-1011

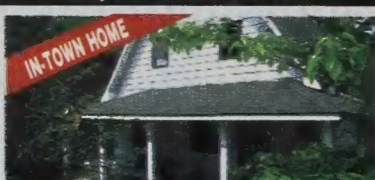


\$194,900

Harcourt Home: 2 Lots in One! Beautiful all brick three bedroom bungalow with in-law suite in a private natural setting. 3 boy detached garage/insulated workshop and much more. Close to Baptiste and Elephant Lakes and minutes to Bancroft and Haliburton. Call Rick or Iana



Rick Forget & Iana Fevreau • 448-2222

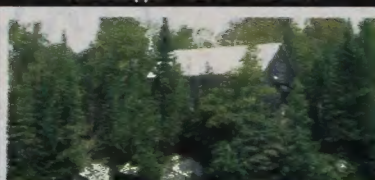


\$144,900

This cute 2 bedroom home, right in the heart of Minden, has it all. Nice covered porch, great side deck, jacuzzi tub, pine cupboards & hardwood floors in the kitchen & foyer, main floor laundry & a great corner lot. Call Lenor Fulton



Lenor Fulton • Ext 23 • 286-2911

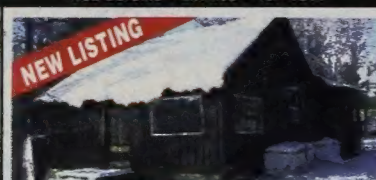


\$1,299,000

EXCLUSIVE PRIVATE LAKE ESTATE
Award of the architect designed and built, energy efficient, 1100 sq. ft. 4 yr old home, that features, custom type hardwood, solid maple, and natural stone as well as wood covered stone fireplace. This 3 bedroom home with the breathtaking view of nature at it's finest. 2000 sq. ft. of living space that will make you want to stay. Call Marilyn Hawley



Marilyn Hawley • Ext 237 • 457-1011



\$99,500

Gull River-Maple Lake
Estate Sale! Level waterfront lot with southwest exposure. Boat into three lakes. Terrific fishing! Old two bedroom cottage in need of repairs. Being sold in "AS IS" condition. Ideal starter cottage. Just listed. Call Bill Kulas



Bill Kulas • Ext 44 • 286-2911



\$239,500

Sellers Re-Location - Motivated to Sell: Spacious 3+1 bdrm brick home w/ att. gar. conveniently located between Haliburton & Minden on 1.43 acres w/ lg pond. Fin's incl: 1-lpc & 1-3pc bath, lg country kit, w/ island & pantry, country LR w/ brick FP/insert, logstone foyer w/ lg walk-in closet. Fabulous custom wood firing thru-out. Lg family rm with w/o. Newer woodstove, furnace & oil tank. Call Debra Lambe



Debra Lambe • 457-1011

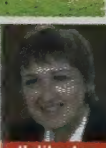
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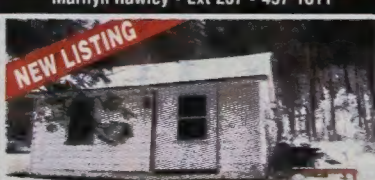


\$259,000

Great Location! Lovely 3 bedroom ranch style home + single car garage + detached double car garage/workshop + hobby shop. Call Linda Litwin



Linda Litwin • Ext • 457-1011



\$109,000

TWO BDR HOME ZONED COMMERCIAL Minden 2 bdr home zoned commercial with excellent access & Hwy 35 exposure. C1 offers many potential uses and property is hooked up to municipal water and sewers. Currently tenanted so rental income is an option. House show well and is cozy & bright. Excellent future potential. Call Denise LeBlanc



Denise LeBlanc •



\$339,000

Soyers Lake: Amazing panoramic view. Partially winterized 3 bdrm. cottage with large bathhouse, pine livingroom, lots of windows over lake, many extras. Call Richard Moritz



Richard Moritz • 457-1011



\$159,000

Newly constructed home: Home on 6.79 ac. lot. Very private and well treed. Features large master ensuite with jacuzzi tub, full unfinished basement. Finish to taste, great location. Call Erin Nicholls



Erin Nicholls • Ext 238 • 457-1011



\$253,900

Black Creek - Access to 3 Lake Chain 4 Season country getaway. Newly remodeled. 3 bdrms, Office, Liv. Rm w/ fireplace, Mn flr. Laundry, 3 Baths, W/out bsmt. Starter home or investment. Call Karen Nimigon



Karen Nimigon • Ext 224 • 457-1011

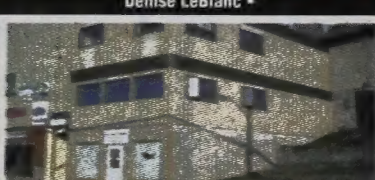


\$699,000

Horseshoe Lake - Confederation Post & Beam Log Cottage or Home, Lrg Livingroom with Stone Fireplace Accented with Pine Floors, Warm Country Kitchen with Elmira Wood Cookstove, 4 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, Full finished Basement, Main Floor Master Bdrm & Laundry! Sand Frontage on a 2 Lake Chain, Minutes to Minden. Call Marj & John

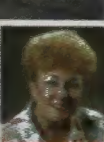


Marj Hunter & John Parish • Ext 226 • 457-1011

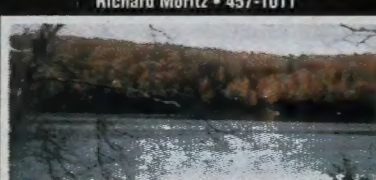


\$499,900

Income Potential: Highland/York St. commercial bldg. w/ over 6000 sq. ft. of space. Inc. 2 commercial units, 4 apts. & large storage area. All 6 units are presently rented, & hydro is separately metered. York Street side takes in a panoramic view over Head Lake, w/ parkland. Call Elizabeth Thompson



Elizabeth Thompson • Ext 248 • 457-1011

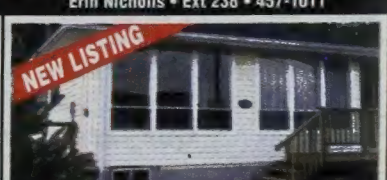


\$159,000

Waterfront Lots: Lapsay Lk. - Point lot with 598 ft. of shoreline & 15 acres, south. exp. & beautiful sunsets, asking \$550,000; Growler Lk. - Level point lot w/ 212 ft. of shoreline, ready for building, south. exp. yr. md. rd, asking \$179,000; Gull River - Bldg. lot between Maple & Green Lake on Wondering Lane, 102 ft. x 648 ft. deep, 1.25 acres, asking \$89,900. Call Ted Vasey

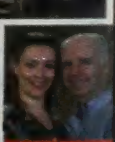


Ted Vasey • Ext 223 • 457-1011



\$159,000

Enjoy one level living in this 3 bedroom bungalow in Minden, within walking distance to everything. A sunroom and wrap-around deck expands your living space, while new laminate throughout makes for easy clean-ups! Call Melanie & Doug



Melanie Vigrass & Doug Brown • Ext 40 • 286-2911

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